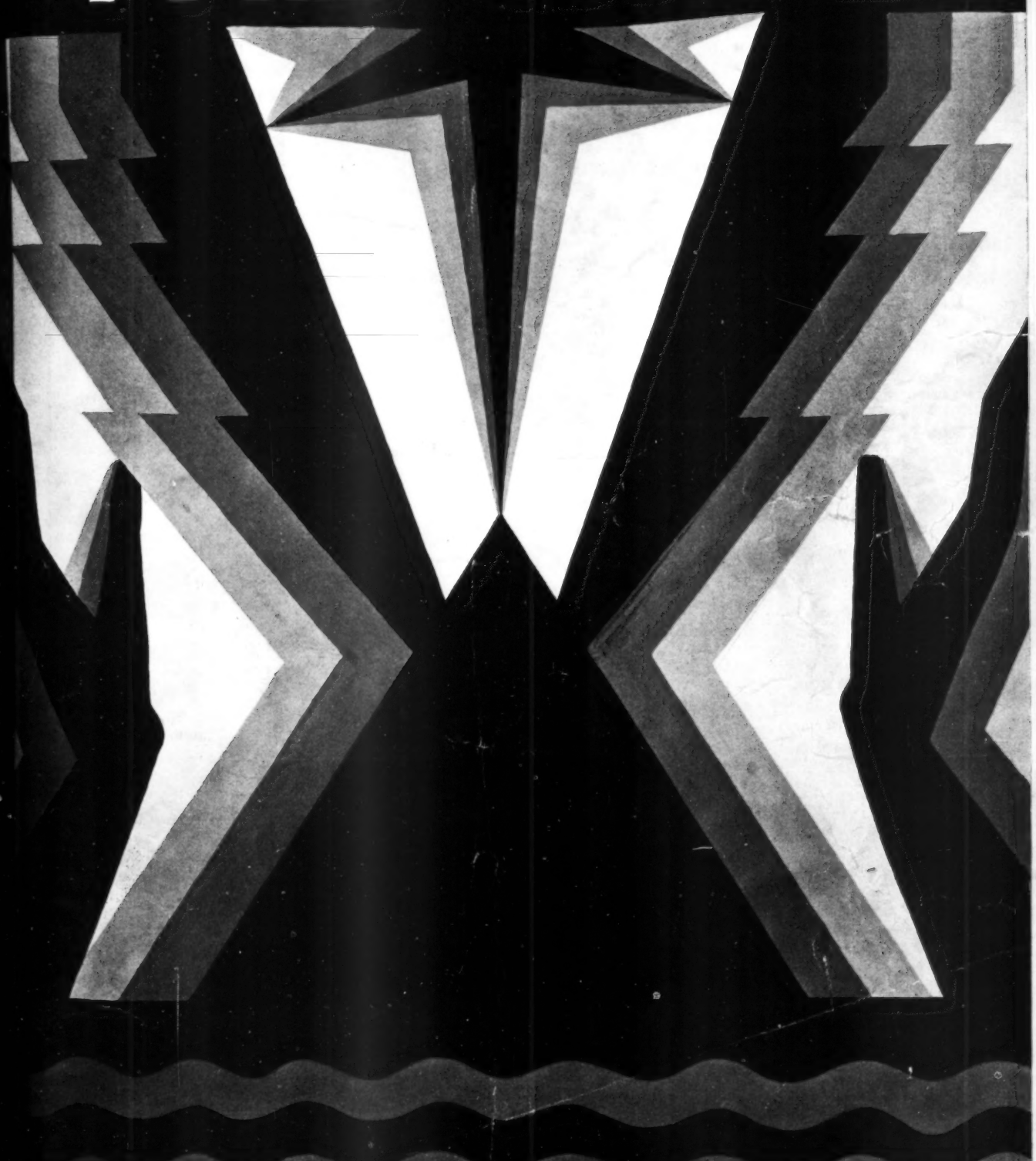
THE CRISIS



MAY 1927

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I have been practicing medicine for twenty-three years in the city of Petersburg. My practice has been extensive, covering all of the adjacent counties, and I have yet to hear anything other than praise for the Southern Aid Society of Va., Inc.

It seems that the Society has adopted as its policy, "Service to its patrons". I know of none that settles its claims more promptly. The Society is undoubtedly a tremendous force in the relief of distress within our group.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) ROBERT E. BURTON, M.D.

SOUTHERN AID SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA, INC.

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THE CRISIS

A Record of the Darker Races

W. E. Burghardt Du Bois, *Editor* Augustus Granville Dill, *Business Manager* Aaron Douglas, *Art Critic*

Volume 34, No. 3 **Contents for May, 1927** *Whole No. 199*

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The *June* Crisis will contain a prize short story; an account of a colored oil millionaire; conclusion of the North Carolina School Study; Bridgetower, friend of Beethoven. For *July* we have the facts about the Elks' Board of Education and their scholars; "In Quest of Juan de Pareja" by Schomburg.

The Wide Wide World

THE world festers in *China;* all its war preparation, all its industrial imperialism; all its missionary enterprise; all its race hatred. The Cantonese are the protagonist of the colored peoples. Only *Russia* helps and for that (as well as other things) the white world hates Russia.—We are walking straight toward War and War and the War spirit thrives on lies. Seldom in modern days has the Foreign Department of a great government openly acknowledged that it deliberately misled the public by a false statement as we did in denouncing the smuggling treaty with *Mexico.* The oil and land interests of the *United States* have the ear of Coolidge and unless a miracle happens we are going to be fighting in Mexico just as we are fighting in *Nicaragua* after an open declaration that we took no sides but were simply defending American interests.—The funniest thing in the Haitian situation is the spectacle of the American puppet Borno refusing to allow an American Senator the right to enter *Haiti,* while the American government expresses its helpless surprise.—Again the *Balkans* threaten the peace of Europe and they threaten it for no new reason but for the old, old facts: 95 per cent of illiteracy, poverty and ruthless exploitation, land monopoly, with the resultant disease and crime. In such a field any modern dictator may swagger. *Italy* wants *Albania* just as she wants *Abyssinia.* She can be kept from this dangerous imperialism only by a united Europe and Europe is not united.—Whence comes the wave of suicide and crime? Of course, from the Big Parade which we call the *World War.* Always, suicide, crime, prostitution and reaction follow War, and always people are tremendously surprised when they appear. They make learned investigations and write long books and articles, which mention almost every cause except the real one.—Can a *race* be libeled? Can a man or a periodical or a paper broadcast lies and misinformation against a whole human race so that each individual suffers from it? Mr. Ford's counsel in the *Sapiro* trial declares that a race cannot be libeled, but we Negroes could give the courts some information on that matter. Our history here from 1619 to 1927 has been one long vicious libel, mis-called the *Negro Problem.*

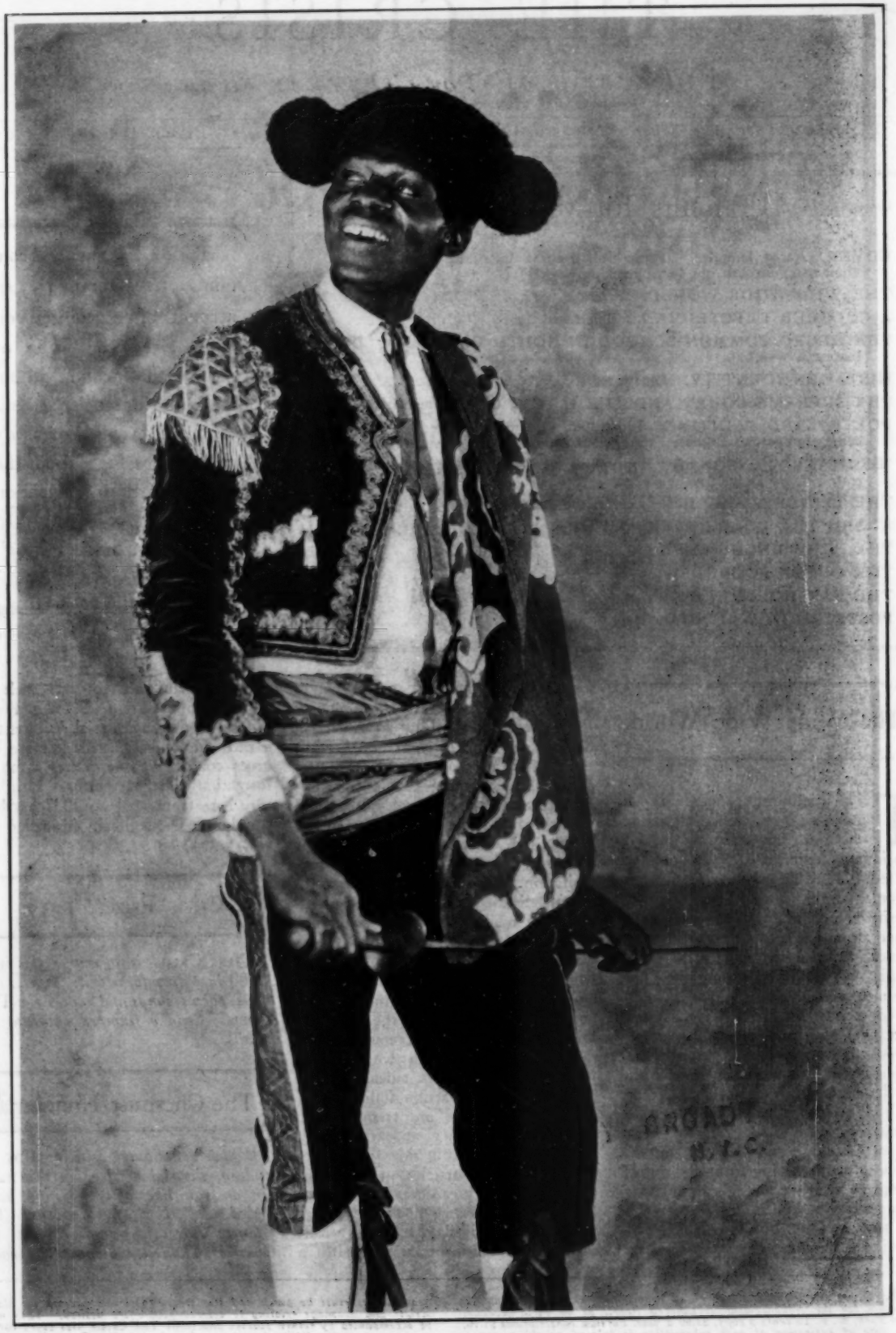
Crisis Prizes, 1927

The Crisis *is offering this year* $2000 *in prizes for stories, essays, cartoons, poems, songs and covers for* The Crisis. *Send a stamped envelope for details.*

The Chesnutt Honoraria

Which contributed article (not *including editorial matter*) *in this number do you like best? Second best? Third best? Write and tell us. The winners for the year receive the Charles Waddell Chesnutt honoraria.*

The Crisis *is published monthly and copyrighted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 15 cents a copy, $1.50 a year. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage and while* The Crisis *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.*



Maurice Hunter, the Artists' Model

A Colored Electrician

The Story of

PAUL E. JOHNSON

WHEN a colored boy starts to study, the possibilities before him seem rather limited. If he can study long enough, he can be a physician or a dentist and begin to make an income shortly after his sign is hung out. If he wants to take law, he must be able to wait longer for the starving period to pass. His chance in the ministry is peculiar: first, there is the difficult question of what he believe and what he doesn't believe; and of the comparatively small salaries paid by most churches and the moving about. Business may attract him. But where is he going to get capital? There is a chance in farming, but there is the difficulty also of Southern rural life and the lonesomeness of the farm, north and south.

All these things the young man considers who has a chance for study. But suppose he has no chance to study? Suppose, like Paul E. Johnson of Chicago, he is thrown at the early age of fourteen into the midst of life. Usually it happens that such a boy lands in the kind of a job which leaves him stranded as he grows up. He is a janitor, errand boy, porter or bootblack and as he approaches manhood he finds nothing new opened up to him. Paul E. Johnson was born in Atlanta, Georgia, July 26th, 1892, and received a common grade school education in that city. He came to Chicago at the age of fourteen years. After coming to Chicago, he secured a position as office boy for the Charles H. Killough Company whose business it was to receive the medical outfits in physicians' offices in exchange for new ones. These worn-out outfits were brought to the office and repaired. Johnson swept the offices, cleaned them, carried in the old machines, stored them and took them apart. He watched while they were being repaired. Finally, he did some of the repairing. Then he began to learn so much about it that he did all of it; but he was still a porter at a porter's wages. That was all that was offered him. There was no chance for promotion. The firm was sorry. They appreciated his work, but,—"you know how it is", they said. Johnson was dissatisfied. He got an idea that his knowledge of these medical outfits was a valuable thing. Also he learned something about electricity. He learned a great deal about skilled mechanical work of various sorts.

FINALLY HE left this firm, walked across the hall to the John McIntosh Company and offered to repair medical outfits and to train people who could repair them, on condition that he be given a chance to act as salesman. Now the new firm recognized his skill and knowledge and they wanted to use it, but, of course, they didn't want any colored salesman. Nevertheless it was worth while making an apparent deal. Mr. Johnson was taken. He filled his end of the deal for two years, then tendered his resignation because the John McIntosh Company did not fill theirs. Instead of accepting his resignation a new proposition was made him. For this he was to receive a salary of $17.50 per week in wages and train repairers and do other work and to sell $175.00 worth of goods each week. If he got over this amount he was to get a commission. He took off his coat and sailed in and he sold more than $175.00 worth of goods each week. But complaints came in and the firm did not look with good will upon

Paul E. Johnson

the training of a colored man for this particular job and they took away his sales opportunity. About this time, due to race prejudice, his brother got into trouble. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People took up the case. Paul helped with his few savings to defend the brother. For a while it looked as though his chance for rising and promotion was gone. But realizing that his brother's fight would be a long one he started out again, got a position with his former employer, Charles H. Killough, who created an Electric Therapy Department and made Paul head of it. At this time he began to study and read, particularly about the application of electricity in medicine. He became intensely interested in the work that was being done with electric light for the cure of disease. After Paul had been with Mr. Killough for a while, he left due to a little disagreement about the methods Paul was to use in the management of his department. After leaving Mr. Killough's, Paul went into business for himself along the Electric Therapy line.

DOING A general business in new and second hand equipment at first, Paul eventually got the Chicago representation for a German Therapeutic Lamp (using the mail in his negotiations as letters don't tell one's color). After two years as their Mid-Western Manager, knowing if he didn't present himself someone would very likely make his racial identity known, feeling he would rather do it and face the music than remain under the strain of the possibility of sudden discharge, Paul went to the American office of this concern at Newark, N. J. He wasn't discharged, neither was he given the contract that his record entitled him to, so he resolved to build a lamp of his own. An investigation revealed a Mercury Arc in Quartz used for water sterilization made by the General Electric Company which could with modifications be used in the Therapeutic Lamp that Johnson was building. He approached the General Electric Company with a proposition. He told them that he had found a new use for their Quartz burner and if they would give him the exclusive right of buying and using it, in that way, he would incorporate it in his lamp. The manager whom he consulted was agreeable and told him to go ahead. Paul Johnson went ahead. He developed his lamp and when the General Electric Company investigated and found out how much money could be made off of this particular lamp, they refused to fill his orders for Quartz burners. He went to talk with them and to find out just why they would not fill his orders. This conference was participated in by the Sales Manager, the Director of Research, his first and second assistants, the firm attorney, two branch managers and the President, Mr. Evans. Mr. Evans said that the manager who had given him the exclusive contract had gone beyond his power. They had Johnson there, as he had no written contract. They had made a verbal contract, only. "Very well," said Mr. Johnson, "will you allow me to keep on buying the burners on the same terms as you allow other people?" "We will," said Mr. Evans. Notwithstanding this, a little while later an order for Quartz Burners which he sent in was turned down. He secured the interest of Dr. I. A. Gardner who offered to back him to the extent of $50,000

Mrs. Paul Johnson, Granddaughter of the Hon. Walter Cohen

to be used in buying Quartz Burners and other equipment. Even after hearing that he had the backing of this man the General Electric Company refused to sell to him. He then secured the interest of Mr. E. J. Rose who called on the General Electric Company, the Chicago Office, offering to back Johnson up to the amount of $500,000. Still they refused to sell Johnson on any terms.

Most people under such circumstances would have thrown up their hands and said that when a tremendous trust like the General Electric Company worth $2,000,000,000 and at that time controlling the making of Quartz Burners in the United States, when they started in to fight one poor colored man, there is nothing for that man to do but go out of business. But not so with Paul Johnson. He jumped on a boat and went to Germany. He secured there the right to use certain patents and lamps which he needed. He came back to the United States and proceeded to equip a manufacturing plant and again he was in trouble. The Trade Unions in the business of Electricity and other lines, did not recognize him and would not admit him into their Unions. If he wanted to hire men, he had to hire white men and they would refuse to take any colored apprentices or admit them into the Union. Johnson, himself, could not be the only workman. Again Mr. Johnson got into the fray. By various methods he secured foreign working men for the various processes of making the lamp, of making the standards, of putting the finish of japan and nickel upon them, of casting the iron; all of the various kinds of mechanical work that go into the making of his many "Universal" Lamps, which he is now manufacturing. Mr. Johnson now has colored and white men working in his shop and they are all on amicable terms. To-day, if you are curious, you may go to 1824-30 South Albert Street, Chicago, and see these men at work and the Lamps being manufactured. There is scarcely a city in the United States where you cannot see one of Paul E. Johnson's Lamps in use.

HE IS manufacturing to-day forty-five different articles, ranging in price from $1.25 for a blue bulb to over $1,000 for the Spectro-Sun Solarum. He manufactures protective screens, generators, bulbs, beauty lamps, chromo-therapy lamps, nurse's lamps, deep therapy lamps, Spectro Sun Carbon Arc Lamps, mercury quartz combination lamps, nasal applicators and incandescent lamps, etc. To-day his lamps are being used in the Cook County Hospital, The Augustana Hospital, Northwestern University Medical School, Rush Medical College, Illinois Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, North Chicago Hospital, Wesley Memorial Hospital and the Chicago Lutheran Hospital, all in Chicago. And in the Bellevue Hospital, New York City, The Western Reserve University and Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio; Baylor University, Waco, Texas; Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., and institutions and hospitals of smaller rank throughout the country. His products are in India, China, Australia, South America, Mexico, France and Canada. Not only that, but Mr. Johnson is spreading the Gospel of Light Therapy. His advertisements say:

"The distinctly superior merit of 'Universal' Lamps is the natural result

(*Turn to page* 98)

The Negro Common School in North Carolina

The Third of the Garland Fund Studies

IN the September and December, 1926, numbers of THE CRISIS we published reports on the Negro common schools of Georgia and Mississippi. As stated in those reports, the investigation upon which they were based was paid for by a five thousand dollar appropriation from the American Fund for Public Service. Four thousand dollars of this Fund was expended in the work of investigation and one thousand went to pay the extra expense of publishing these reports in enlarged numbers of THE CRISIS. The publication of further studies has no financial support and therefore the studies must be issued in curtailed form without an exhaustive presentation of facts and figures. On the other hand, in this shorter form they will be perhaps more readable.

NORTH CAROLINA

THE present study covers the state of North Carolina and is much more pleasant reading than the two former reports. Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama reach probably the nadir of public school education of Negroes. On the other hand, for the Southern states, North Carolina is without doubt the best. This condition of the public schools in North Carolina is due to a slow but certain change of attitude in the public opinion of the state induced by the missionary work of a series of far-sighted and public-spirited men. The change is not complete. The average North Carolina citizen does not yet thoroughly believe in education for Negroes. But perhaps the degree of change that has already taken place can be best indicated by two quotations. In his biennial report of the public schools of North Carolina for 1908-09 and 1909-10, Superintendent J. Y. Joyner, a protagonist for education in the state, spoke of Negro schools as follows:

"It would be easier and more pleasant for me to close this report without undertaking to discuss this most perplexing problem of the education of the Negro, about which there are so many conflicting and divergent views among my people. This is a part, however, of the educational problem of the state and, in some respects, the most difficult part. It is, therefore, my duty to study it and to give to you and through you to the general assembly and to the people my honest views about it. He is a coward that basely runs away from a manifest duty. . . . . The Negro is here among us through no fault of his own and is likely to remain here. There are but two roads open to him. One is elevation through the right sort of education; the other is deterioration and degradation through ignorance and miseducation, inevitably leading to expulsion or extermination. We must help him into the first if we can. If we do not our race will pay the heaviest penalty for the failure.

. . . . There is another phase of this problem of Negro education worthy of the serious consideration of our people. It is manifest to me that if the Negroes become convinced that they are to be deprived of their schools and of the opportunities of an education, most of the wisest and most self-respecting Negroes will leave the state and eventually there will be left here only the indolent, worthless and criminal part of the Negro population."

Joyner was a friend of Negro education, but in advocating it he had to be distinctly apologetic and base his advocacy upon the economic needs of the white men and not upon the Negroes' needs *per se*.

FOURTEEN years later we have the report of A. T. Allen, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, saying:

"Negro education in North Carolina has been greatly stimulated within the last five years. The Division of Negro Education in the State Department has been able to give this expansion wise direction and greatly to encourage our Negro population. It has also been instrumental in bringing about more amicable relations between the races and in restoring the confidence in each race in the good intentions of the other. There seems to be a disposition on the part of the people of the State to concede to the Negro an educational opportunity far more adequate than any he has heretofore enjoyed. The Negroes are accepting the privilege of going to school in good faith and are availing themselves of the opportunity in a most commendable manner. The opportunity for the colored child to get an education is nowhere equal to the opportunity offered to the white child, but the dividing gap between their opportunities is gradually being narrowed as the colored schools are improved."

Here the education of the Negro is assumed as an established policy and the Superintendent is even able to state that the difference between the educational opportunity of white children and Negro children is growing smaller and to hint that the goal is equal educational opportunity for all children regardless of race. Not a single state Superintendent of Schools of any other former slave state, with the possible exception of Missouri, has ever dared to make a statement as liberal as this. But this is not all; there are people in North Carolina, and people of prominence, who go further than this. They do not dare yet to say openly all they believe, but one prominent North Carolinian writes to a colored man in December, 1926, addressing him as "Mister" and in commenting on a recently published study of Negro education says:

"I read part of the study of Negro education by Mr. Huff last night. It was sad stuff, another case of half literate whites working on the 'Negro problem'. Mr. Huff's thesis is that the Negro should be given education —always the attitude of 'giving'—in order to make him a more efficient cog in the economic wheel. I think Mr. Huff's attitude is more or less representative of the so-called liberal white. There are not many—but there are some—who hold the view that every individual is or should be an end unto himself, that every individual regardless of color, race, point of origin, should be given every opportunity to develop his powers of mind and body and take his place in society accordingly. When such work as this 'study' is approved and the author receives an A.M. on the basis of it—and this sort of work is not unusual—I wonder if we of the white race really have anything to boast about. Certainly, it will be no great strain on you people, once you can get the money, to form an educational system equal to ours. My humble advice to you would be to study some other pattern—ours, I think, is a rather crazy one."

All this does not mean that North Carolina is wholly in the light. It is only by contrast with the unreconstructed South that she shines. There is still lawlessness; 14 Negroes have

been lynched in the last ten years; there is still a discouraging amount of ignorance and prejudice among the mass of the whites. One colored man, a tall, well-built Negro engaged in farming and social uplift, told me of his experiences in Columbus County in 1922. He had tried to have a Negro school in the Chadbourne District where they had had no Negro public school for 57 years. The Negroes were required to give outside of their taxation two hundred fifty dollars for a schoolhouse. This amount was raised gradually until at last they actually paid one thousand six hundred and thirty dollars. He became a marked man for his persistence. And in addition he successfully stopped a white man from profiteering to the extent of seven dollars a ton in selling lime to Negro farmers. Neighbors complained because his wife did not "take in washing" and the Ku Klux Klan began to pay him attention. A mob took him one night out into the woods and horsewhipped him. Certainly, North Carolina is not out of the shadows, but she is one hundred years ahead of Georgia.

POPULATION AND ENROLLMENT

THE Negro school population, enrollment and the average daily attendance is shown in the following diagram. (Page 96)

One sees not only how steadily these lines tend upward, but also that the daily attendance is becoming a larger and larger part of the enrollment and that the enrollment is approximating the school population. In the last report available, 1923-24, out of a school population 5-20 years of age of 293,-183, 248,904 were enrolled in school and 164,698 were in daily attendance. Or, if we take the school population 7-13 (compulsory school age) for the same year, we have 162,542, of which 161,786 are enrolled in schools and of them 113,704 are in daily attendance.

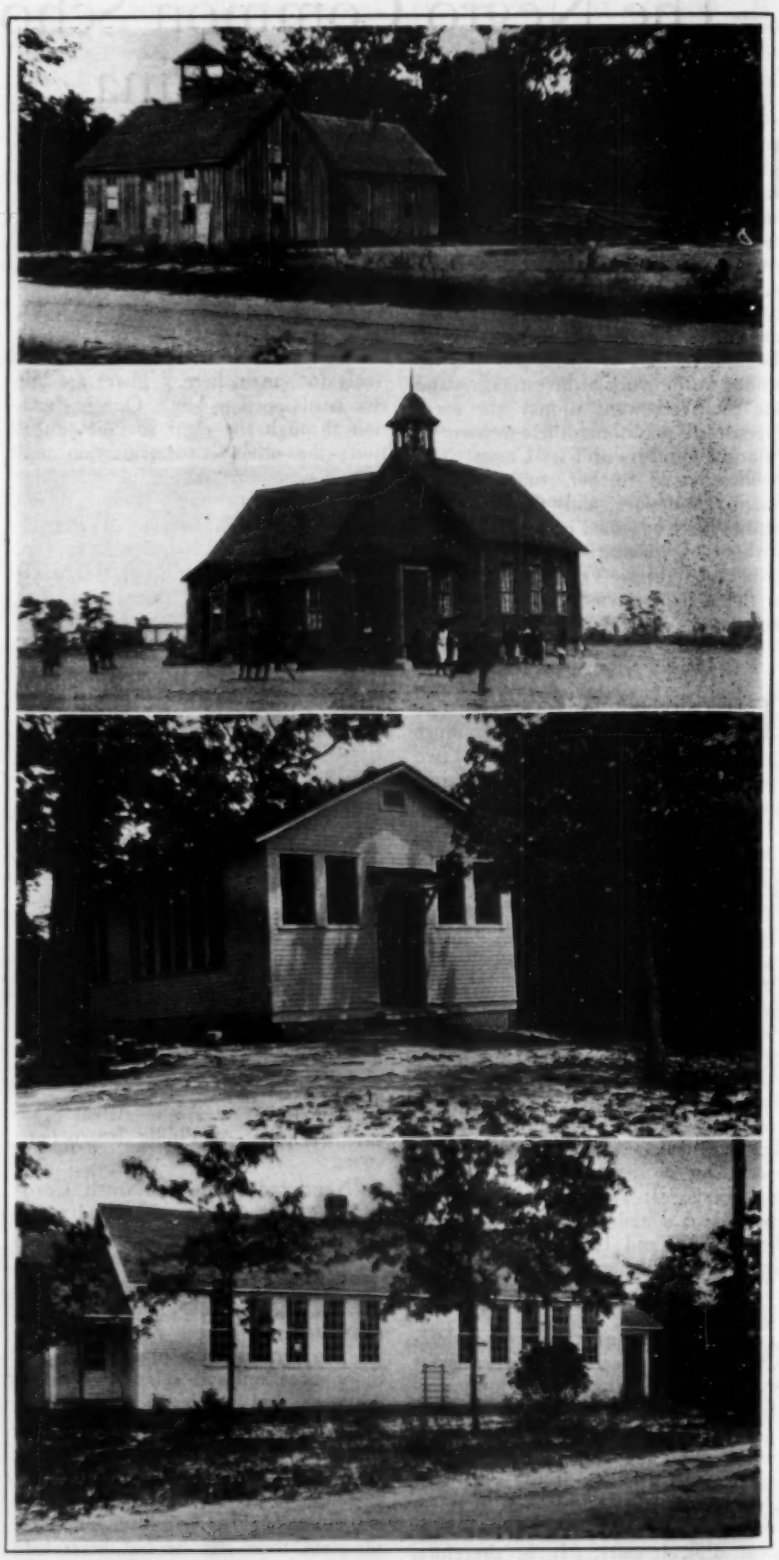
Colored children, 6-21 years	% of School population enrolled	% of Enrollment in attendance
1904-05	65.6	57.0
1909-10	67.3	59.5
1914-15	71.8	63.0
1919-20	79.7	64.2
1924-25	84.1	67.6

Other facts concerning the condition of the Negro schools are as follows:

Date	Number of teachers	Average monthly salary	Average term in days	Average days in school
1899-1900	2567	20.48	65.3	
1909-1910	2793	25.26	93.7	55.8
1913-1914	3173	26.75	114.8	72.3
1919-1920	3884	46.85	127.4	81.9
1923-1924	5120	64.83	134.6	89.1

	1900	1902-03	1914-15	1923-24
School property	$258,295	$313,624	$1,163,533.15	$6,580,770
School houses	2120	2188		2432
Average value school houses			$482.99	$2,705 61
Total salaries	$238,862 85		$432,532.04	$2,233,983.21
Average salary per year			$149.66	$436.32
Average term, days	78.2		113.5	134.6

(*Turn to page* 96)



Evolution of the Negro School House in North Carolina

1. *Stewart's Center, Harnell Co.*
2. *Pines, Moose Co.*
3. *McLean, Goston Co.*
4. *Lincoln Park, Moore Co.*

Mistaken Identity

An Actual Occurrence

AS I boarded the train in the little town of "X", going into a new field of labor, I found that there were no colored passengers except myself. After riding the distance of six miles I reached the junction where I had to change trains. While waiting at the junction for the arrival of the late Virginian train, I was drawn into conversation by a white woman. She was of that type who proceeds without inducement to tell you just how many chickens she has raised, how many hogs she has to kill, how long she has been married to "Bill", how many children she has reared and how well they have married. The concluding remarks were abruptly hushed by the sound of the whistle of the approaching train heard in the distance.

When the train arrived there were no passengers for this stop and we immediately got on. The coaches were crowded. I found space in two seats. One held a foreigner, the other, a white American. The American said, "Share my seat". I thanked him and sat down. As the train rolled on we noticed that the fruit trees were not heavy laden. He discussed the apple crops, saying they were plentiful in the State of Ohio. We then talked on and compared the States of Ohio and West Virginia.

My garrulous co-traveler looked at us with anxious eyes and listened with eager ears. We now had reached station "L", the destination of the white American, who bowed politely saying, "Good-bye" and got off.

The garrulous traveler asked if she might share the seat. I nodded yes, but my conversation with her was in monotones until we came to station "M", where we again changed trains. From this station we walked down a long flight of steps, then crossed over to a smaller station, where we waited for our next train on a short line.

When the window of the ticket office opened and I purchased my ticket, I discovered that I had left my baggage at the station up the long flight of steps. The co-traveler said, "You jest git my ticket fer me, and I'll git yer grip." She was much older than I, but I remembered days before '63 and thought "Yes, let her carry it, since she had suggested it." And she did. Thus time passed until the short line train came and we got on.

I FOUND a seat and she insisted on sitting with me again. Two other colored ladies took the seat just in front of us. My co-traveler whispered

"How Fair and White You Air!"

to me, "I like to ride in Virginy where you are not bothered with *niggers*. I jest can't stan' 'em. Kin you?" Quickly I thought how much worse it would hurt her to ride with me and find her mistake farther on the journey. So I pleasantly replied. "Yes, I can stand them, in fact I am very fond of them." With a horrified look she exclaimed, "You air!" "Well," said she, "if they ride in separate cyars it will be more better for them and more better for us." Seemingly this crucifying of the King's English gave me an appetite and I guess she already had one, for we both opened our lunches and began to eat.

She insisted on my eating some of her lunch and I purposely did. I gave her some of mine in exchange. We chatted about the wind and the weather until our lunches were exhausted. Then I asked if my face looked dirty from the long dusty ride. She said, "No indeedy. I was jest noticin' how fair and white you air. I'd give most anything to be as white." We were now at the end of the line, where we would change for the last time to the N. and W. main line. Here we would wait from 4:00 P. M. until 7:00 P. M. We and a drummer constituted the waiting passengers.

As we looked out of the station window we saw an east-bound train coming in. Three distinguished Negroes descended the steps to the platform. Later they proved to be an Editor, a Lawyer and a Hotel Proprietor. It seemed that I knew one but I said nothing to her. They entered the station.

THE Editor walked up to me and said courteously, "Good afternoon. Are you Miss 'A'?" "Yes," I answered, "I am she." He took from his pocket a photograph and continued. "Do you recognize this picture?" "Yes, it is myself," I replied. The Editor then introduced the Lawyer and said, "Your sister, Mrs. 'W', sent Attorney 'C' to meet you."

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James County, Va., Training School, page 89

The Supreme Court and the N. A. A. C. P.

By WALTER WHITE

WHAT is believed to be a record was recently established by the N. A. A. C. P. in winning two important cases in the United States Supreme Court within a period of seven days. The first of these handed down on March 7th was a unanimous opinion in the Texas White Primary Case, Nixon v. Herndon and Porras. The other decision was gained in the New Orleans and Louisiana Residential Segregation Case, Tyler v. Harmon.

The White Primary Case has received so much publicity in the editorial and news columns of the white and colored papers throughout the country that there is no need of entering into a lengthy recital of the facts. Briefly, there was passed by the Texas State Legislature in 1923 an act barring Negroes from voting in primaries of the Democratic Party. A reputable Negro physician of El Paso, Dr. L. A. Nixon, a regularly enrolled member of the Democratic Party, attempted to vote at the primary election of July 26, 1924, and was refused a ballot by the election judges, C. C. Herndon and Charles Porras.

Suit for damages was filed against the election judges by Dr. Nixon, the El Paso Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. retaining attorneys for that purpose. The United States District Court of the Western District of Texas upheld the action of the election judges and appeal from that decision was immediately taken to the United States Supreme Court. The case was argued on January 5, 1927, in the Supreme Court by Fred C. Knollenberg of El Paso and Arthur B. Spingarn of New York, Chairman of the National Legal Committee of the N. A. A. C. P. Associated with these attorneys in the preparation of the brief were Moorfield Storey and James A. Cobb of Washington. Later a reply brief was filed by the N. A. A. C. P. attorneys answering the brief of the State of Texas. In the preparation of this latter brief Louis Marshall, eminent authority on constitutional law, member of the National Board and of the National Legal Committee of the N. A. A. C. P., was added to the formidable array of attorneys appearing for Dr. Nixon.

ON Monday, March 7, 1927, the United States Supreme Court was crowded, a large number of colored people being present expecting to hear the argument of the Louisiana Segregation Case. Mr. Justice Holmes, on the eve of his eighty-sixth birthday, delivered the decision of the Court. Concise, straightforward and unequivocal were his words in declaring unconstitutional the attempt of the State of Texas to disfranchise Negro voters. Because of its importance not only in its effect upon the question of disfranchisement of Negroes but also because of its ruling that the primary is an integral part of the election process (thus affecting profoundly such issues as the Vare case in Pennsylvania and the Smith case in Illinois) the decision is reprinted here in its entirety:

Battles of Law and Peace

"Mr. Justice Holmes delivered the opinion of the Court.

"This is an action against the Judges of Elections for refusing to permit the plaintiff to vote at a primary election in Texas. It lays the damages at five thousand dollars. The petition alleges that the plaintiff is a Negro, a citizen of the United States and of Texas and a resident of El Paso and in every way qualified to vote, as set forth in detail, except that the statute to be mentioned interferes with his right; that on July 26, 1924, a primary election was held at El Paso for the nomination of candidates for a senator and representatives in Congress and State and other offices, upon the Democratic ticket; that the plaintiff, being a member of the Democratic party, sought to vote but was denied the right by defendants; that the denial was based upon a Statute of Texas enacted in May, 1923, and designated Article 3093a, by the words of which 'in no event shall a Negro be eligible to participate in a Democratic party primary election held in the State of Texas,' etc., and that this statute is contrary to the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States. The defendants moved to dismiss upon the ground that the subject matter of the suit was political and not within the jurisdiction of the Court and that no violation of the Amendments was shown. The suit was dismissed and a writ of error was taken directly to this Court. Here no argument was made on behalf of the defendants but a brief was allowed to be filed by the Attorney General of the State.

"The objection that the subject matter of the suit is political is little more than a play upon words. Of course the petition concerns political action but it alleges and seeks to recover for private damage. That private damage may be caused by such political action and may be recovered for in a suit at law hardly has been doubted for over two hundred years, since *Ashby* v. *White,* 2 Ld. Raym. 938, 3id. 320, and has been recognized by this Court. *Wiley* v. *Sinkler,* 179 U. S. 58, 64, 65. *Giles* v. *Harris,* 189 U. S. 475, 485. See also Judicial Code, section 24 (11), (14). Act of March 3, 1911, c. 231; 36 Stat. 1087, 1092. If the defendants' conduct was a wrong to the plaintiff the same reasons that allow a recovery for denying the plaintiff a vote at a final election allow it for denying a vote at the primary election that may determine the final result.

"The important question is whether the statute can be sustained. But although we state it as a question the answer does not seem to us open to a doubt. We find it unnecessary to consider the Fifteenth Amendment, because it seems to us hard to imagine a more direct and obvious infringement of the Fourteenth. That Amendment, while it applies to all, was passed, as we know, with a special intent to protect the blacks from discrimination against them. *Slaughter House Cases,* 16 Wall. 36. *Strauder* v. *West Virginia,* 100 U. S. 303. That Amendment 'not only gave citizenship and the privileges of citizenship to persons of color, but it denied to any State the power to withhold from them the equal protection of the laws. . . . What is this but declaring that the law in the States shall be the same for the black as for the white; that all persons, whether colored or white, shall stand equal before the laws of the States and, in regard to the colored race, for whose protection the amendment was primarily designed, that no discrimination shall be made against them by law because of their color?' Quoted from the last case in *Buchanan* v. *Warley,* 245 U. S. 60, 77. See *Yick Wo* v. *Hopkins,* 118 U. S. 356, 374. The statute of Texas in the teeth of the prohibitions referred to assumes to forbid Negroes to take part in a primary election the importance of which we

N. A. A. C. P.
Richard Hardin Davis, Jr., 4th prize, Jersey City, N. J.
Esther E. Washington, 1st prize, Lansing, Michigan
Winifred O. Byrd, 1st prize, Hackensack, N. J.
William Whitney, 3rd prize, Jersey City, N. J.

have indicated discriminating against them by the distinction of color alone. States may do a good deal of classifying that it is difficult to believe rational, but there are limits, and it is too clear for extended argument that color cannot be made the basis of a statutory classification affecting the right set up in this case.

Judgment reversed."

This epoch making decision emphasizes again that while the N. A. A. C. P. primarily directs its efforts towards combatting oppressive conditions affecting Negroes, its work at the same time is for all minority groups and both directly and indirectly is serving the vast interest of all American citizens. For example, if legislation designed for residential segregation of Negroes or if private property holders' agreements limiting the right of purchase and occupancy by Negroes should have the stamp of Court approval put upon them it would be only a matter of time before the same kind of legislation and agreements would be used against Jews, Catholics, persons of foreign birth and other minority groups. So in the White Primary Case the decision gained by the N. A. A. C. P. in ending this form of disfranchisement affects directly the questions of Congressional control of primaries and of whether or not public offices in America shall go only to those who either have great wealth or for whom offices can be purchased by persons of wealth. It is impossible to estimate how far reaching the effects of this decision will be.

THE NEW ORLEANS SEGREGATION CASE

ON the day following the handing down of the above decision there was argued in the United States Supreme Court another case carried there by the N. A. A. C. P. It will be remembered that in 1917 in the famous case of *Buchanan* v. *Warley*, 245 U. S. 60, 77, the United States Supreme Court ruled that city ordinances or State laws designed to segregate Negroes were unconstitutional. Within the last two years several cities, apparently unaware of the Louisville Case and its decision thereon, passed segregation ordinances, among them being Indianapolis, Indiana; Norfolk, Virginia; and New Orleans, Louisiana. It is felt that one of two things was hoped for by the proponents of these ordinances in these places—either that Negroes would submit without protest to this illegal legislation or that the United States Supreme Court might reverse itself on the Louisville Case decision.

Both of these hopes were proved to be ill founded. In Indianapolis, colored citizens aided by a few fair minded white people raised approximately five thousand dollars within ten days, retained the ablest counsel obtainable and defeated the Indianapolis ordinance in the lower courts.

In Norfolk, through the splendid work of the Norfolk Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. and its president, Attorney David H. Edwards, the local ordinance was defeated easily.

IN New Orleans, however, the situation was more difficult. The framers of the ordinance there imagined that they had found a way to evade the ruling of the Supreme Court. The Louisville ordinance expressly forbade a Negro occupying a house in a so-called white block. In New Orleans the ordinance stipulated that a Negro was forbidden to occupy a house in a white block or a white person

(*Turn to page* 99)

Prize Babies
Anna Banks, 2nd prize, Rochester, N. Y.
Veobia Lawrence, 1st prize, Jersey City, N. J.
Fred Hayes, Jr., 3rd prize, Englewood, N. J.
Wilbur Lucas, 2nd prize, Hackensack, N. J.

POETRY AND PAINTING

The Lord

By EFFIE LEE NEWSOME

BRING to me your heart all bleeding!
When have I been known to mock men's tears,
To scoff at men because their hearts were full,
Despise them in their grief?
I am the Comforter.
I make the lilies.
I am the merciful.
Hope in me.
Bring unto me the wounds that throb,
The sorrows of which you would not whisper.
I have known tears myself.
Tears cannot anger me.

The Childhood of Jimmy

Six pictures in the Head of a Negro Boy

By LANGSTON HUGHES

The Town

I LIVED with my aunt in a small town. There were lots of colored people there. It was a nice town with trees in it and at the end of our street a river and a little house where a colored man sold whisky and sometimes beer . . . My aunt liked our town. She said she always lived there. My uncle liked our town, too . . . He washed his overalls in the backyard on Sundays . . . There were two churches in our town.

The School

There were colored children in the town school. All the little colored children were in one room and the teacher was colored, too. I don't think she liked the school . . . When I was in the third grade I went into another room with the white children and the teacher was white, too. I don't think she liked the school either. She said we were all bad children . . . Sometimes they slapped me in the school.

The Difference

You're a nigger. You ain't as good as I am 'cause you're a nigger . . . Paul said that to me but he didn't mean to hurt me when he said it. He was my friend. We played games together all the time and we went to the woods on Saturdays to look for May apples and birds . . . He said you ain't as good as I am. You're a nigger, but he didn't mean to hurt me . . . I asked my aunt what I should say when Paul said you're a nigger. I liked Paul so I asked my aunt what I should say.

The Soul

God! I ain't afraid of God! Earl said, and God didn't strike him dead . . . Come all ye who love the Lord and lay your burdens down. They sang slow in church Sunday morning. It was Revival Day and Earl went up and sat on the mourner's bench . . . And I went up, too, ashamed . . . Come all ye who love the Lord . . . and my aunt was kneeling down beside me praying . . . and the old folks in the amen-corner were praying . . . And the preacher said do you love God? And I said yes. And the preacher said do you accept Him? And I said yes. And I was converted . . . And my aunt got up and the old folks screamed hallelujah and sang glory to the name of the Lord . . . And I went home and cried in bed because I was ashamed . . . I didn't love God . . . And I was ashamed to lie about I didn't love God.

The Body

My aunt said be careful about girls . . . Clarence, next door, was the father of a baby . . . Clarence was sixteen years old . . . Clarence was arrested and had to marry the mother of his baby . . . My aunt said be careful about girls . . . I went to her house at four o'clock in the afternoon. She said I should come . . . My aunt said be careful about girls . . . I didn't know much about girls . . . Her mother worked all day in Mrs. Ronnermann's kitchen. Her mother didn't get home until after supper. . . . My aunt said be careful about girls . . . She said I should come. Her mother didn't get home until after supper . . . Be careful about girls.

Death

My grandmother died on Thursday . . . Grandmother . . . I didn't want her to die on Thursday . . . Every Thursday I sold papers and I missed selling papers because she died on Thursday . . . Somebody woke me up at three o'clock in the morning because my grandmother was dead. I went outdoors looking for my grandmother . . . She wasn't there. The moon was there, cold and ugly, but no ghost of my grandmother . . . They wrapped her up in sheets and sent her away to the undertaker's. I didn't sell any papers on Thursday . . . I missed my grandmother . . . We moved away to another town. I went to another school. I didn't sell any more papers on Thursdays. I went to work in a big hotel . . . I missed my grandmother.

Hale Woodruff

¶ Noteworthy among the younger artists is Hale Woodruff who received the second prize for drawing in THE CRISIS contest for 1926. Mr. Woodruff, who has been a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana, since 1918, was born in Cairo, Illinois, and attended the public schools of Nashville, Tennessee. From 1920 to 1923, he was an art student at the John Herron Art Institute. In 1923 and 1924 he was successful in having his paintings, "The Street Workers" and "The Red Sweater" accepted in the Annual Indiana Artists Exhibition and since then, has won numerous prizes.

The Snarl

By FRANK L. HORNE

Too late to roll the tangled skein
The knot is taut, what might have been
Passed with the pangs of yesterday—
The secret page of history.

Red blood and white and black combine—
Can you dissever yours from mine?
Such motifs are not thus undone,
Like prowess might command the sun.

Too late to roll the tangled skein,
At first perhaps, this might have been,
'Tis now too hard and passing late
To disentwine the threads of Fate!

"DRAMATIS PERSONAE"

Josephine Baker in a Patou Gown (Photo by D'Ora, Paris)

Josephine Baker

JOSEPHINE BAKER, the slim autumn-brown girl who has been the premiere artiste of Paris now for over a year was born in St. Louis, Missouri, not much over nineteen years ago. Now she is the star of the Folies Bergere and hailed as the greatest attraction Paris has known since Mistinguett.

To Wilsie Caldwell, an original "Shuffle Along" girl, goes the credit of "discovering" Josephine. Together they played in local colored shows in St. Louis until finally Josephine had the opportunity of joining the "Shuffle Along" company number two. When this company disbanded, she worked with the number one group until the show finally closed. Her eccentric and abandoned dancing and her ludicrous facial contortions gained her her first recognition when she was playing as the "girl on the end" in "Chocolate Dandies".

Josephine discovered Broadway and Paris via hard work, Daly's Sixty-third Street theater and the Charleston. She was working at the Plantation cabaret on Broadway with Ethel Waters when her company went to Paris to fill an engagement at the Champs Elysees Music Hall. Paris was soon charmed with her joyous personality, her dusky beauty and the wild grace of her dancing. Following immediately upon the close of "La Revue Negre" at the Champs Elysees came Josephine's one year contract with the management of the Folies Bergere. Her name was placarded all over Paris. The leading scenic artists designed her settings. No money was spared to make her a success. And she was. Paris clamored for her and Paris is still clamoring for her.

Alice Burghardt Crawford, page 103

Josephine is truly a Cinderella child. The poverty and struggle of her first few years have been changed into riches and success by the wands of ambition and work. Her gowns are designed by Paul Poiret, the celebrated dressmaker and art connoisseur; she owns a beautiful Voisin limousine and occupies a palatial apartment in the Champs Elysees designed by Poiret and others. Her hats, her shoes, her delicate perfumes, her fans, almost everything she owns, are the products of the greatest artists of Paris. And the money still comes rolling in. She has made a new contract with the Folies Bergere and she now has a contract with a night club, where all she has to do is to put in her appearance after theater hours. Josephine Baker is nearing the top of the ladder of Success.

And the beauty of it all is that this slender brown girl, who has become the most talked of person in Paris, has retained the simplicity of youth which is the secret of her charm.

¶ The Boston Stage Society recently presented a Ridgely Torrence Play, "The Rider of Dreams", with an all

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The Chicago Flying Squadron, N. A. A. C. P., page 103

The Little Page

EFFIE LEE NEWSOME

Calendar Chat

MAY is Veery's time. Shy bird! He hides so much that were it not for his song we might forget there is a Veery.

"Up the airy mountain,
Down the leafy glen
We daren't go a-fishing
For fear of little men."

Veery is just as mysterious but not so mischievous as these "little men" of the glens who stole the lovely child away, though Veery also loves glens. He likes the deep shadowy woods with its ravines of white pebbles and purple runs and velvet mosses.

You and I like the woods pretty well in the daytime when we can find red Solomon's seal berries. But not at night when trees are so strange and shadowy and leaves rustle warningly. I don't know how Veery can sing out there at night. But he does sing. His song doesn't sound uneasy but is gentle, clear and sweet. It says "Veer-ie, veer-ie". And again, "Veer-ie" over and over.

Do you remember how he looks, shy Veery? He is about the length of Bluebird and wears a neat brown cutaway, a white collar and a brown spotted vest.

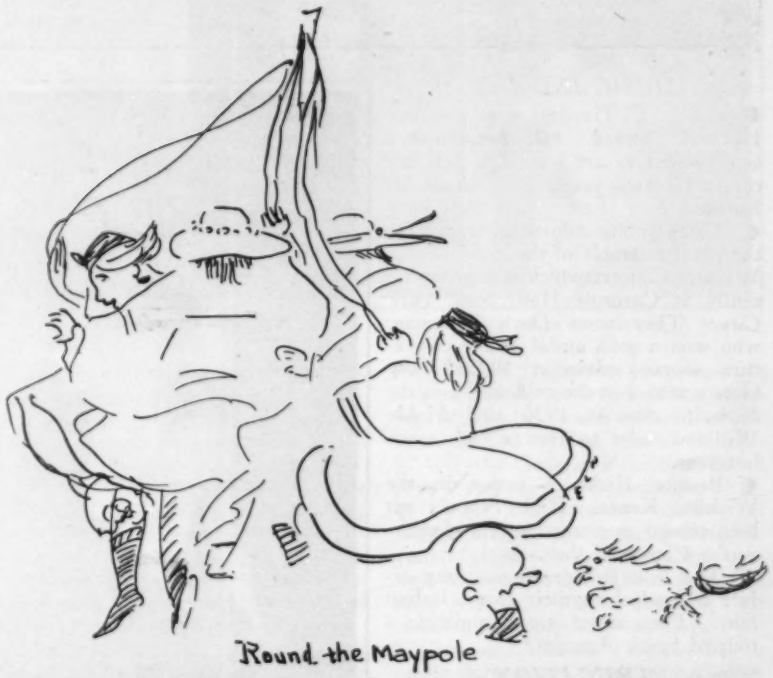
He is above all a voice. I believe that Veery is more anxious for you to hear his song than look upon his simple dress.

A more pretentious bird in appearance that also hides a great deal, dodging about on the earth, seldom mounting to trees because of his funny little wings is Towhee in splendid black coat, red sweater and white vest. He has not the sweet voice of Veery. His notes are harsh. Yet, when in May you start hunting for the owner of Veery's voice, you will hear as well the notes of Ground Robin or Towhee or Chewink, all the same bird.

Oh, Veery's come back with the Maytime.
I'm happy to hear his sweet song.
And Veery will stay here till autumn.
I hope summer'll be so long!
That I may just listen to Veery
At twilight half hidden away.
If all summer through
He whistles to you,
You wish that the summer would stay.

The Maypole

ROUND the Maypole we go,
The Maypole we go,
The Maypole we go,
Heigh-ho!
Birds on the trees,
Blooms on the leas,
Children as merry and gay as you please.
Round the Maypole we go,
The Maypole we go,
The Maypole we go,
Heigh-ho!



Stripo

SHOOTING along the old rail fence he went, sliding with blinding speed and then down into the nameless mass of small weeds and vines at the foot of the stake-and-rider fence. He was gone, Stripo the little acorn-colored chipmunk with the dark and light streaking down his back.

I had watched a chipmunk disappear along this same fence one bright windy March day and lose himself in dry brush and bleached foliage. But this May day Stripo had been singing as only chipmunks can. He had been leading a chipmunk chorus in which all the others from chipmunks along the fences to those back in the thin bright grove had joined. It is strange how these little animals sing. They are happy and brisk of movement.

In cold weather they lie snugly sleeping under the earth in burrows that they have stored with nuts carried there in their cheeks in the fall. Stripo and all chipmunks would lead a happy life were it not for the cruel weasels that are always eager to feast upon these cheery little creatures. Yet I must say with shame of the chipmunks they murder baby birds!

Polio, Polio, Red Lollipop

POLIO, Polio, red lollipop,
Who brought you here
From the king's candy shop?
Red as a cherry, round as a top,
Polio, Polio, red lollipop.

Mignonette Beds

THEY'RE beautiful but very high,
Those gorgeous gardens of the sky.
Nobody's ever been there yet
To gather rose and mignonette.

In morning though and at sunset
The skies are gay with mignonette
That mixes with the brighter flowers
Of dawning and of sunset hours.

The real red poppy, pink sweat pea,
Sage, crimson as a flower can be,
Bee balm and gorgeous marigold,
And tiger lily bright and bold.

These all are blooming overhead
Whenever skies are pink and red

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ALONG THE COLOR LINE

MUSIC AND ART

¶ Palmer C. Hayden, who won the Harmon award for distinguished achievement in art for 1926, left recently for two years of art study in Europe.

¶ Three young colored girls sang in the vocal ensemble of the Gold Medal Winners Concert which was given recently at Carnegie Hall, New York City. They were Doris Trotman, who won a gold medal in the coloratura soprano class in 1925; Ruby Green, who won the gold medal in the contralto class in 1926; and Mable Williams, who received a high mark last year.

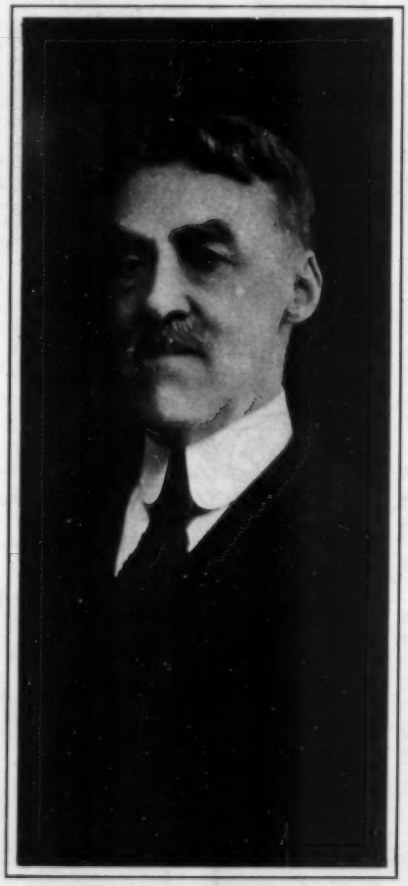
¶ Bernice Hicks, a senior in the Wichita, Kansas, High School, has been chosen as pianist for the Junior-Senior Chorus of that school.

¶ The Fisk Jubilee Singers sang before Mussolini on their recent Italian tour. The quartet is contemplating a tour of South America.

EDUCATION

¶ The first conference of Negro librarians from various schools, colleges and public libraries, representing twelve states, met at Hampton Institute recently, at the call of Florence Rising Curtis, director of the Library School at Hampton Institute.

¶ The Interior Department recently announced that a survey of Negro colleges and universities throughout the country will be undertaken by the Bureau of Education. The survey is an attempt to evaluate the work of these institutions since 1916 when the Bureau of Education co-operated with the Phelps-Stokes fund and made a similar survey.



President W. H. Johnson

¶ Hampton Institute has arranged an educational European trip for teachers. The party will visit France, Holland, Belgium and England.

¶ William Hallock Johnson, who recently took up his duties as president of Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, writes: "I was born in New York City, graduated from Princeton University and Princeton Theological Seminary, studied also in Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University from which I received the degree of Ph. D. and in the University of Jena, Germany. Before coming to Lincoln University I taught four years in Centre College, Danville, Kentucky, and later received from them the degree of D. D. I came to Lincoln University as Professor of Greek and New Testament Literature in September, 1903, was dean of the University and after the death of the late president, Dr. John B. Rendell, was for a time acting president. I was elected president November 16, 1926, and took up the duties of the office on December 1, thus becoming the fifth president since the founding of the institution in 1854. I have written a couple of books and some articles on religious, philosophical and educational subjects."

Dr. W. E. Williams, p. 90 *J. A. Davis, p. 90* *J. E. Brent, p. 90* *Rev. E. F. Goin, p. 90*

Charles Howe, p. 90 *John Brown, p. 90* *Miss B. Hicks, p. 88* *Miss M. Rattray, p. 91*

¶ The Arkansas Legislature recently passed two bills which will give the Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal School for Negroes $650,000 with which to construct an entire new plant two miles from its present site.

¶ The Booker T. Washington Junior and Senior high school, which was recently erected in Miami, Florida, at the cost of $306,435, is well equipped and modern in all details.

¶ The West Virginia Collegiate Institute has been granted full membership in the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

¶ The Supreme Life and Casualty Company issued the following statement December 31, 1926: admitted assets, $311,245.50; policy reserve, $191,039; capital and surplus, $111,520.08; total income, $212,385.94; insurance in force December 31, 1925, $4,495,898 and of December 31, 1926, $7,257,126.

¶ The New York League of Women Voters offers a prize of $100 for a design that shall express the aims of the league and be suitable for advertising meetings throughout the State. Designs must be received by May 15. For rules apply to New York League of Women Voters, Room 5017, 100 East 45th Street, New York City.

¶ Rupert Griffith, a young British Guiana Negro, has been awarded a scholarship in painting by the Master Institute of United Arts, New York City.

¶ The James County Training School, located at Williamsburg, Virginia, is a four year accredited high school which was organized by Professor William Hayes five years ago. It is a completely modern building, costing $8,000, of which colored people raised $4,000. Julius Rosenwald gave $2,400, the General Education Board $1,000 and the city the balance.

¶ Under the capable coaching of Adolph Hodge, the Frederick Douglass Junior High, New York City, won well deserved track and field championships recently. This is the first time in the history of the New York Public Schools Athletic League that a junior high school track team consisting mainly of colored boys under the leadership of a colored coach has won an indoor track championship.

¶ S. D. Kaizi and C. B. Kisosonkole of East Africa and I. B. Gumede of South Africa are students of the University of Birmingham, England.

The Negro Caucasian Club,
University of Michigan

PERSONAL

¶ Dr. J. T. Wormley, the pioneer colored druggist of Washington and the first graduate in Pharmacy of Howard University, is dead. Dr. Wormley was born in Washington in 1844 and was educated in the public schools there.

¶ Cecil Cooke, star on the University of Syracuse track team, recently won the relay race in New York, setting a new record and equalling the world record.

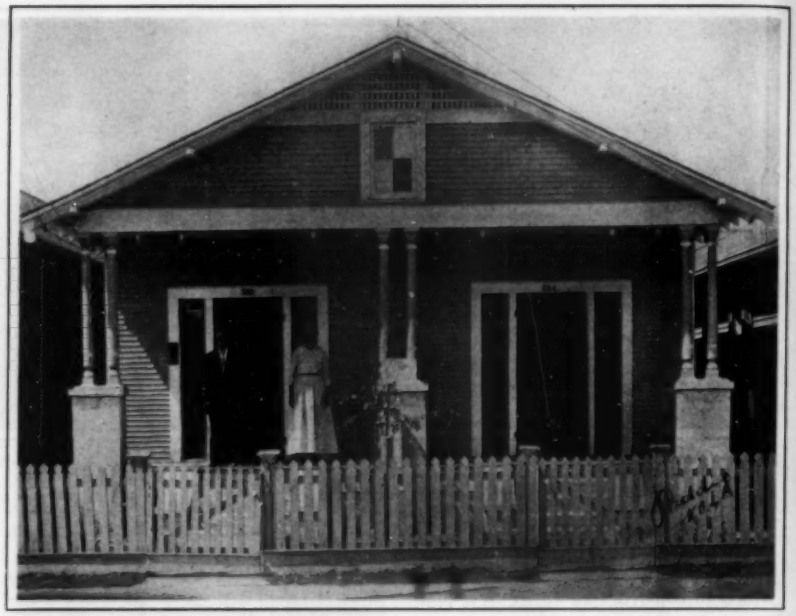
¶ The colored stage crew of the Washington Theater, Louisville, Kentucky, under the direction of Charles Howe, handled the scenery of the "George White Scandals" in such an efficient manner that it won praise not only from the audience but from the traveling stage crew carried by the company.

¶ Corporal John Brown of the B. M. C., Durfee High School, Fall River, Massachusetts, the only colored contestant in the cadet's prize drill, recently won first prize for excellence.

¶ Prominent among the men recently elected to state legislatures is John A. Davis, member of the 54th Missouri General Assembly. Mr. Davis, who is a practicing attorney of St. Louis, Missouri, was graduated with the B. A. degree from Howard University in 1917 and with the degree of LL. B. from the same institution in 1921.

¶ Dr. W. Edward Williams, whose death was noted in the April CRISIS, was pastor of the Hope Presbyterian Church, Chicago, Illinois.

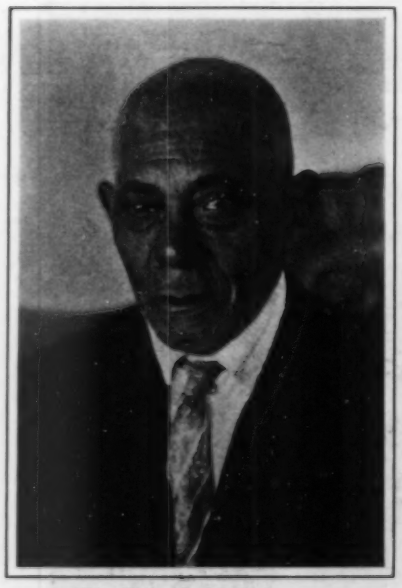
¶ Edward F. Goin is pastor of the Dixwell Avenue Congregational Church, New Haven, Connecticut, which is the oldest Congregational church among Negroes. He was born in Alabama and educated at Fisk University, Oberlin College and Yale University. He married Miss Viola M. White in 1902 and is the father of two children, one a student at Yale. The Dixwell Community House, which grew out of a social service program in his church, has three paid workers and forty volunteers. Mr. Goin has served as Moderator of the Congregational Ministers' Association, is a Thirty-third degree Mason and a member of the Sigma Pi Phi fraternity.



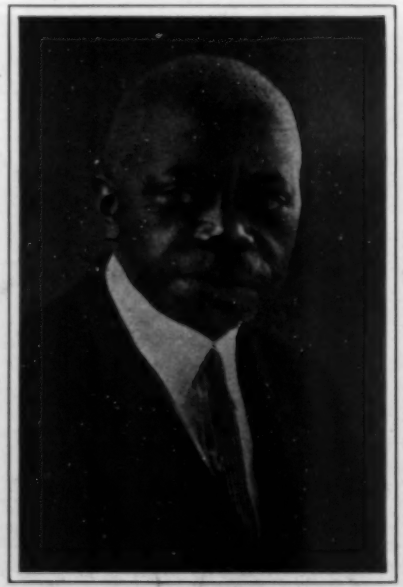
The home in the New Orleans Litigation

¶ John E. Brent, of Buffalo, New York, is the first colored architect in that city and has been in the profession for fifteen years. He has been in business for himself for the past year and is the architect of the new colored Y. M. C. A. building.

¶ Miss Mabel Byrd, membership and industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Y. W. C. A., has been granted a for-



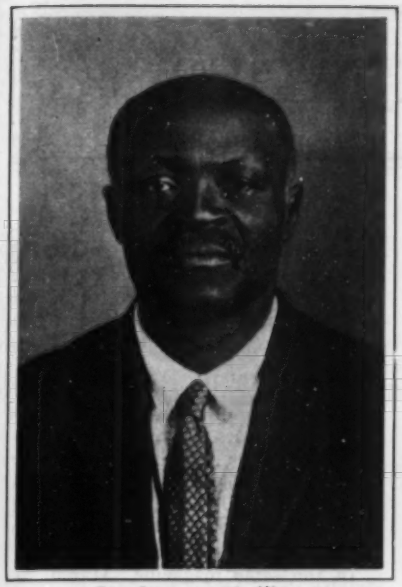
The Plaintiff, Ben Harmon



The New Orleans Segregation Case Associate Atty. F. B. Smith

(*See page* 83)

Dr. G. W. Lucas, N. A. A. C. P.



Sam Lowman of Aiken

trustees of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation are Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., and Nicholas G. J. Ballanta, originally from Free Town, Sierra Leone. Mr. White will spend his time in writing in south France. He has been granted a year's leave by the Board of Directors. Mr. Ballanta is to continue scientific studies of the musical conceptions of the African peoples.

¶ Sam Lowman, the 55 year old father of Demon and Bertha Lowman and the uncle of Clarence Lowman, the three Negroes lynched in Aiken, South Carolina, has completed his term of imprisonment. He was arrested the day his home was raided and his wife murdered by Aiken officers and dragged off to jail. During his prison term, the Lowman home was ransacked and nothing was left. Mr. Lowman is making his home in Philadelphia with the four surviving members of his family. Why do Negroes leave the South?

¶ Maggie Rattray, a native of South Africa, who received her training in the United States and who, after the completion of her course at Spelman College, returned to Africa as a missionary, has received the medal of honor from the King of Belgium.

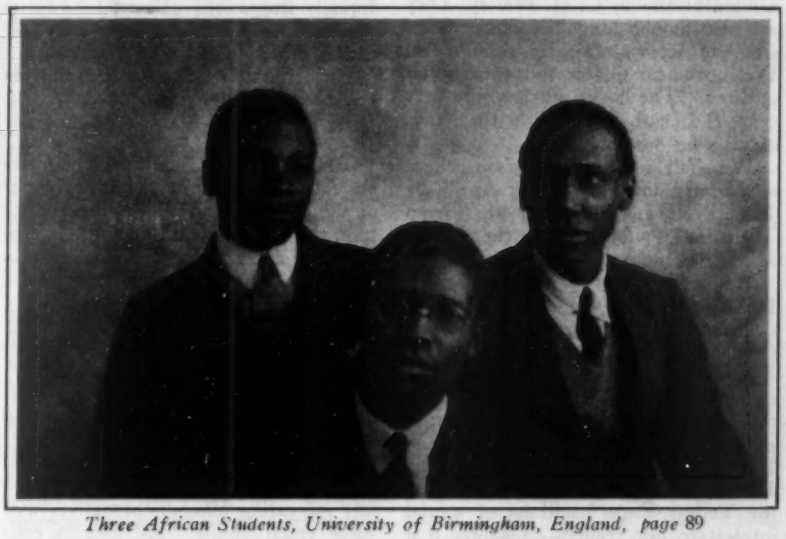
¶ Daniel Freeman of Washington, D. C., is dead. He was one of the first

(*Turn to page* 104)

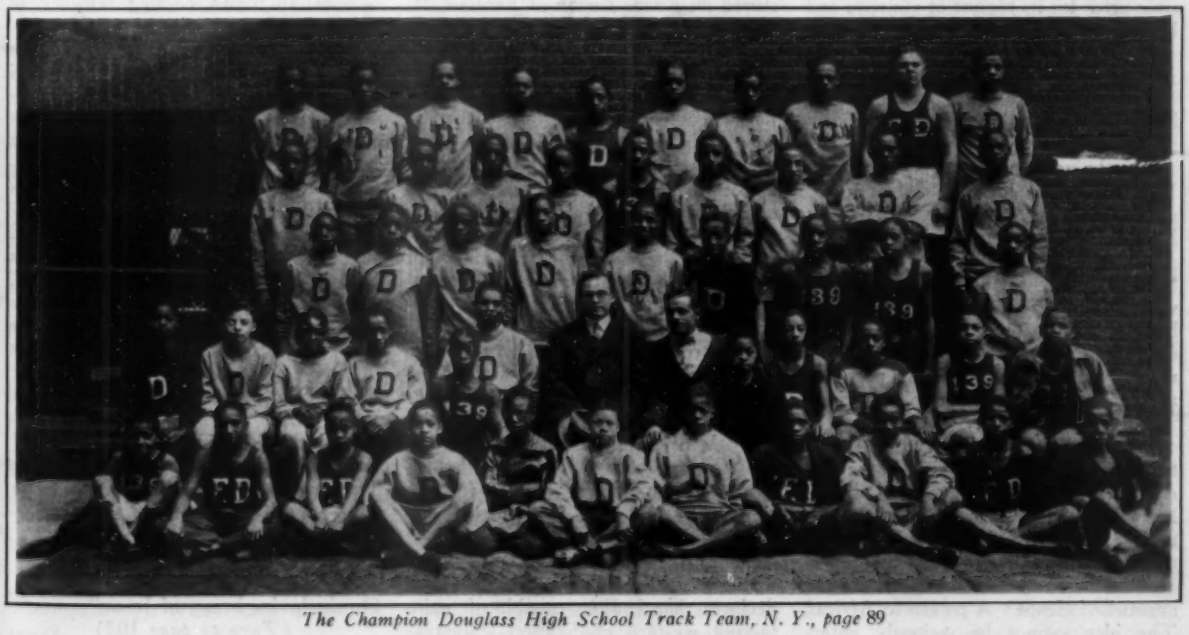
eign scholarship for special study at Woodbrook, Birmingham, England. She will have leave of absence for four months.

¶ Cornelius M. Battey, for eleven years head of the Department of Photography at Tuskegee Institute, is dead. Before going to Tuskegee, Mr. Battey had a studio in New York City and at various times worked for Underwood and Underwood, the best known photographic organization in America, and many other leading photographers. He leaves a wife and four children.

¶ Among the eleven New Yorkers who were awarded fellowships by the



Three African Students, University of Birmingham, England, page 89



The Champion Douglass High School Track Team, N. Y., page 89

THE BROWSING READER

THE Vanguard Press is publishing a series of most excellent little books, including "The New Tactics in Social Conflicts" by Laidler and Thomas, for the League for Industrial Democracy and "Negro Labor in the United States" by C. H. Wesley. They are also republishing "Economic Classics" by Ruskin, Tolstoi, Lenin and Wells, radical fiction and educational outlines. The books sell for only fifty cents each and should be in the hands of all who dare think.

We shall review Wesley's excellent study later and also "Black April" by Julia Peterkin, the author of "Green Thursday", published by the Bobbs-Merrill Company.

Andre Siegfried's "Les E'tats-Unis D'Aujourd'hui (anglice "America Comes of Age", Harcourt, Brace and Company) forms in its English edition a book of 358 pages, of which the first chapter on "Origins of American People"; the 6th, on the "Color Problem"; the 7th, on "Race Consciousness and Eugenics"; the 19th on the "Ku Klux Klan" and the 25th on "America and the Yellow Races" will be of special interest to our readers. Chapter 6 is not accurate in detail but on the whole it gets the spirit of the Negro problem. He says:

"The South is unable to shake off this shirt of Nessus and it pays a terrible price for its régime of violence and hatred. Materially the disastrous effects of the Civil War are over and forgotten with the return of prosperity, but intellectually and morally how barren! Everything is poisoned, even religion . . .

"In the great cities of the North the Negroes are no longer the 'good niggers' of legend, for they are neither humble nor deferential. In the economic struggle they have not fared so badly. In the factories they get good wages, they have their own newspapers, banks and theaters and among their élite are to be found lawyers, doctors, writers and artists—a living proof of the fact that the race is able to rise."

His final word is:

"An unprejudiced observer is forced to a painful conclusion. In the old days the whites may have been able to keep ten million men of another race under their yoke, but it is now very difficult and will probably be impossible in the future. What then are the avenues of escape? A return to Africa? The idea cannot be seriously entertained. The destruction of the Race? Equally impossible. Fusion? This is occurring to a certain extent, but one hardly dares suggest it as a solution."

Unfortunately M. Siegfried and his publishers spell it "negro"!

Siegfrieds "Les Etats Unis D'Aujourd'hui"

IN THE MAGAZINES

THE CHARACTER of the numerous African problem articles is evidence of the growing knowledge that at bottom, the race problem is in truth an economic problem. The Right Honorable Lord Olivier exposes "The Five Fears of South Africa" in *The Contemporary Review* for February. The fear of the increasing competition of natives with Europeans in the wage-labor market; the fear of the rapid increase in numbers of the natives; the fear that the white man may adopt Kaffir habits; the fear of inter-racial unions and miscegenation; and the fear that the rapidly increasing numbers of natives will force equal rights. All this is conscience balm to the European in South Africa in attempting to legislate the natives back into virtual slavery.

The Italian-German struggle for colonial possessions in Africa is discussed by Evans Lewin in *Foreign Affairs* for April under the title of "German and Italian Interests in Africa". Germany is demanding African possessions to produce raw materials and foodstuffs needed by the industrial population and to provide markets for her manufactured goods; and to free herself from the stigma of incompetency. Italy demands that Germany shall not be given a colonial grant before Italy receives the imperial loot promised her openly by the Treaty of London and inferentially by the Treaty of Versailles.

The recent agreement between the South African Government and a delegation of Indians described in *The New Statesman* for March 5, under the title of "Indians in South Africa" does not approach the heart of the Indian problem, but it arrests for the time being the need for drastic legislation. A vague agreement, which is capable of self-interpretation by Indians as well as by South Africans, declares that Indians capable of maintaining western civilization standards should be allowed to do so.

After ten years of continuous controversy, the United States has taken "A Forward Step" in granting to the Virgin Islands, nine-tenths of whose population is Negro, full rights of citizenship, says *The Nation* for March 30.

Relative to the recent Supreme Court decision, making void the barring of Negroes from Texas Democratic primaries, *The Literary Digest* for March 19 discusses "The Negro's Right to be a Democrat" by means of a series of newspaper clippings from various parts of the country.

In the same magazine, March 26, the Supreme Court decision that "No Laws May Part White and Black" is interpreted as invalidating all segregation laws passed in recent years.

Jim Tully tells of "Famous Negroes of the Ring" in *Vanity Fair* for April. A brief history of pugilism from the battles of the Gladiators before the birth of Christ down to the present time and the histories of Negro fighters from Bill Richmond, who was born in 1763, through Jack Johnson and Tiger Flowers, make an entertaining half hour's reading.

If anybody is as gullible as Lyle Saxon shows himself in the *New Republic* for March 23, he can discover in New Orleans or New York as much "voodooism" and bootleg whiskey as his pocket can pay for.

In the monthly *Review of Nations* published at Geneva by Felix Valyi much space is devoted to race problems in articles published both in French and English. In the March number, Herbert Miller has an excellent article on "Changing Conceptions of Race".

The *American Mercury* for April publishes James Weldon Johnson's beautiful poem, "Go down, Death", another of his paraphrases of Negro sermons. We quote one stanza of the dying of Sister Caroline in Yamacraw:

"And Death took her up like a baby,
And she lay in his icy arms,
But she didn't feel no chill.
And Death began to ride again—
Up beyond the evening star,
Out beyond the morning star,
Into the glittering light of glory,
On to the great white throne.
And there he laid Sister Caroline
On the loving breast of Jesus."

(*Turn to page* 102)

THE OUTER POCKET

Mound Bayou

For almost three years and immediately after my father's death, I have been desperately fighting against great odds to retain my father's estate, which is the town of Mound Bayou, founded and left by him for the Negroes of this state and the U. S. But the law of the white man in dealing with the Negro is the law of intimidation. The real truth is, that we are afraid to make a complaint, although we are ground to dust. . . .

We have been intimidated by being put in a common jail, there to remain all night with lice, filth and the insults of common white men; released without any charges against us, locked up without a warrant. Every man or woman who tries to help me is likewise dealt with, white or colored; and soon are silent and remain away from us. . . .

I have had some of the best lawyers in this part of the state without any results, for soon an impossible condition is created by the designing and they give up the case, always advising me to sign mortgages, suit claim deed, or anything in the thieves' favor. For almost two years I have filed with the court petitions for the removal of the Administrator but they were taken from the files and never reached the court. Now the situation has become desperate.

Our home, 8 years old, built at a cost of $35,000 is being advertised for sale for $5,000. Although free of all incumberances when father died, a mysterious note rose up and was placed on the home. This is the home only "fit for white men" to live in, and must be taken away from us. . . .

——— has sold the Negroes of this state back into slavery, he has used every ounce of his energy to deliver the landowners back into peonage, by deceiving them into the trap set to get their farms into the hands of the white man. I also find that even some of our newspaper men with the largest circulation are afraid to expose this Judas who is undoing the work of my father, and of his forty years of hard labor.

M. Estello Montgomery,
of Mound Bayou, Miss.

[Thus writes a daughter of Isaiah Montgomery. What have others to say?]

Black K K K

About two years ago, Rev. I. H. Kelley, pastor of a local Baptist Church (Colored), accused even by his own members of being under the influence to a marked degree of white persons, made an unsuccessful attempt to organize here a society to be dominated by whites. About two months ago Williams, of Ft. Worth, Tex., formerly secretary of a Baptist Church there with the moral support and the assistance of local solicitors interested a number of persons in the organization which Kelley failed to succeed with and which is known to the public as "The Star of Columbia."

"The Star of Columbia" is represented as not being antagonistic to the N. A. A. C. P. but as an interracial organization of Southern People "with whom we must live, while the N. A. A. C. P. is dominated by Northern white people". "The Star of Columbia" attempts to settle race differences through understandings, sympathetic bonds, etc., and from this point, if there is failure, or need of strife, the N. A. A. C. P. operates. From the outside "The Star of Columbia" is organized (it appears) on similar lines to the K. K. K.; it is a secret, oath bound organization with degrees; based on the Bible. The graphic representation is an arch; one side composed of a black membership, the other a white; the top represents the highest degree as where the two races meet; the rank and file of the membership are not allowed to know what individuals compose the white membership. Solicitors and other representatives are paid; some salaries, some commissions; judging from the number who claim they have been offered good salaries for their services and the activities of those who are working, there is plenty of money for propaganda; though many express themselves as suspicious of the organization.

Sutton Griggs, of Tennessee, lectured here last month and not long ago, I am told, at Houston and Ft. Worth in the interest of the Star and will lecture here again this week.

—— —— of San Antonio, Texas.

Helpless Haiti

I enclose several clippings of the Port au Prince dailies about a case of rape by an officer of the Constabulary, Lieutenant O'Donnell, of the Marine Corps, on a girl of eleven years.

The semi-official paper, *l'Essor,* has published all the facts about the case, September 13, and also, the nationalist organ, the *Courrier Haitien.*

The American Occupation is trying to hide the facts and to whitewash Lieutenant O'Donnell.

The editor of the semi-official paper was forced by the American authorities to give a sort of denial intended to whitewash the guilty officer and the Chief of Constabulary, General Turrill, promoted O'Donnell in sending him as District Commander in the town of Petit Goave.

Mr. Luc Dorsinville, who is the editor of *l'Essor,* has just been dismissed as head of the Passport Service in the Department of Interior as a punishment for divulging the felonious assault of O'Donnell on the poor child.

I have, personally, made an inquiry about the case and reliable persons have assured me that all the facts published in the Port au Prince dailies are perfectly true.

There have been numerous cases of rapes by marines, particularly, in the inland, but the families, either by shame or fear of reprisals, have always avoided making complaint or publishing the facts in the papers.

The tropical sun, the Haitian rum, the Occupation's big stick, the American dollar, make of the men of the Marine Corps the most undesirable kind of people in the unfortunate land of Haiti.

—— —— of Port au Prince.

Pleasant Words

I want to congratulate you most warmly upon the improvement in The Crisis. It is very much more impressive in the new form. Your March issue is especially fine.

Oswald Garrison Villard
of New York.

I like immensely the new form in which The Crisis appears this month. This is a real step forward and I congratulate you. I have only one criticism and that is that I don't like the placing of your editorials at the end as a "postscript". The finest thing

(*Turn to page* 102)

THE FAR HORIZON

Literature

Song for a Dark Girl

By LANGSTON HUGHES

From "Fine Clothes to the Jew", Knopf.

WAY Down South in Dixie
(Break the heart of me)
They hung my black young lover
To a cross roads tree.

Way Down South in Dixie
(Bruised body high in air)
I asked the white Lord Jesus
What was the use of prayer.

Way Down South in Dixie
(Break the heart of me)
Love is a naked shadow
On a gnarled and naked tree.

A BIT OF CONTRAST

A WASHINGTON colored woman, A COOK, 60 years old, found HER INNER clothing afire, and BECAUSE of her modesty, refused TO TEAR off or permit the CLOTHING to be torn off to EXTINGUISH the fire, policemen AND FIREMEN having to disrobe HER BY force to keep her from BURNING TO death; and, in CONTRAST TO her conduct, we RECALL THE white girl who STRIPPED OFF everything and TOOK A bath in a tub filled WITH WINE, for the delectation OF WHITE men and women in NEW YORK under the direction of EARL CARROLL, who is not likely TO EVER forget the affair.

The Washington, D. C., *Times*.

PORTLAND STANDS FAST

Portland's public schools are democratic and for that reason the administration today expressed regret over the action of the management of the Imperial rink, No. 387 East Madison Street, in excluding a member of the eighth grade of Fernwood school from a graduation skating party Thursday night because of a ruling against colored races.

C. A. Rice, superintendent of schools, expressed approval of the members of the class for abandoning the party when George Edward Cannady, 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Cannady, editors of the *Advocate* and well known workers for the welfare of the colored people, was refused admittance to the rink.

"The teacher and principal did not know the rink had a ruling against colored people, or the party would never have gone there," Rice said. "If the party was held in the school gymnasium or auditorium, the boy certainly would be included and the class did right to leave."

George Cannady is captain of the basketball team, class treasurer and was a member of the committee which selected the class pin and also a member of the committee which arranged the entertainment.

Portland, Ore., *Journal*.

ET TU TEXAS!

Race "fanaticism", which is "now sweeping the country", soon would have entered the legislature but for the decision of the United States Supreme Court recently holding the Texas statute barring Negroes from primaries is unconstitutional, former Governor James E. Ferguson said today.

The former governor advised the Negroes to "begin at once to make themselves worthy of this sacred voting right".

Ferguson declared it is "ridiculous to think of how strong the crowd, formerly led by ex-Governor Neff and now led by Governor Moody, were for the enforcement of the eighteenth amendment and how strong they are for the violation of the fifteenth amendment by the passage of a law that will take away the right guaranteed under the constitution".

He asserted that if a law can be passed to exclude the Negro voter, "it won't be but a short time until they will pass a law excluding the Bohemian race and then it will be easy enough to pass a law excluding the Mexican race. And then to cap the climax, a lot of people who are still mad about the war will rise up and demand that the law be passed excluding the German race from the primary elections, and then, in truth and in fact, the constitution will become a scrap of paper. Every good citizen should rejoice in the fact that the Supreme Court has stepped in and promptly declared for the perpetuation of the God-given right of suffrage".

Press dispatch from Texas.

IN HOLY LOS ANGELES

MASS MEETING

Friday Eve., Feb. 18, at 7:30
at 2322 W. Jefferson St.

Keep up the Race Restrictions on the Negroes and Japs—and the constantly increasing valuation of our residential property coming.

It is suicide to your pocket-book to allow the race restrictions to expire as they have in certain parts of our district, and into which the Negroes are already attempting to gain a foothold.

Come out Friday Evening and hear what is in store for you, unless immediate and drastic action is taken.

John A. Burgan, President of Federated Home Protective League, will be the principal speaker of the evening.

DO YOU WANT A JAP TO LIVE ON ONE SIDE OF YOU AND A NEGRO ON THE OTHER?

Leaflet distributed on the streets of Los Angeles, Cal.

SACKCLOTH

Mr. DuBois is quite right in his conclusions about the white race. It hasn't played the game quite right. One has only to read the history of human slavery, once defended as a divine institution, to understand that. At the time of the World War we preached glibly the doctrine of human equality knowing all the while that we were not quite sincere. We knew then that all men even though they may have been created equal are NOT equal in temperament, riches, training, breeding, culture, intelligence, imagination, color. We know that while we preach that all men are brothers we don't all play golf together or sip tea on the front piazza. We know that racial lines exist as they have always existed, that caste separates men more widely than the lines of distance and that a snobbish attitude toward life and living still is potent to sway the hearts of men.

Pittsfield, Mass., *Eagle*.

WELCOME, WEST INDIANS!

The greatest patriotic demonstration it has been my privilege to witness was that staged in this city on the first of this month when Captain Waldo Evans, U. S. N., retired, took the oath of office as Governor of the Virgin Islands and announced to the thousands gathered around that President Coolidge on the 28th of February had signed the bill making the people of the Virgin Islands citizens of the United States.

The inauguration took place in one of the historic parks of St. Thomas, known as "Emancipation Park". It was in this park that the emancipation proclamation was read so many years ago and historians claim that the rejoicing and emotion of the people on this occasion far exceeded that of the slaves that were made free. It was at once made manifest to the Governor that the people of the Virgin Islands are a fine type of citizen, loyal to the United States and appreciative of every consideration given them by the mother country. . . . The granting of citizenship will add about 26,000 new citizens to the population of the United States.

Adolph Gerean in the N. Y. *Times*.

THE NEW AFRICAN INSTITUTE

The governing body of this new Institute, which will be a clearing house for information on so many important aspects of the life of the people of Africa, will be international. It will number about 40 representatives from scientific societies from various countries in Europe, America, Egypt and South Africa. It will also include missions of all sects, who have exceptional opportunities for studying the languages, beliefs, customs and traditions of Africa. The British and French Governments have expressed cordial approval.

The object in view is to promote international co-operation in the task which Western civilization has undertaken in its dealings with primitive African peoples, to form a bureau of information where the work already done by different countries can be made available for educational and other purposes. Its headquarters will be in London. The Institute will abstain from any interference whatever in matters of policy and administration and will be a link between scientific knowledge and practical work in Africa. The first task is to lay down principles for a practical orthography for African languages and to apply them to particular cases after full consultation with all those who have knowledge. Meanwhile it will collect its publications in African languages and also books in European languages dealing with African beliefs, tribal laws, languages, customs and music. Finally, it will publish a quarterly journal.

The services of Professor Delafosse, of Paris, and of Professor Westermann, of Berlin, both of whom had acquired an international reputation in these subjects, were secured as directors of the Institute, by whom, under the supervision of an Executive Council, the work will be carried out. We have suffered an irreparable loss by the recent death of M. Delafosse, who has been succeeded by M. Labouret.

Broadcast by Sir Frederick Lugard
in London.

PREMPEH CONQUERS

A historic event took place last Wednesday when the Kumase train slowly rolled into the Accra Station. It brought to Accra no less a personage than Nana Prempeh recently restored to the Head Chieftaincy of the Kumase tribes of Ashanti. The event is historic in that this is the first time that King of Ashanti has ever set foot within the confines of the Accra District. The primary purpose of the visit is to witness the opening of Achimota College. No doubt he will also make this an opportunity of making the acquaintance of the Ga Manchemei. He is putting up during the visit at Bannerman's Buildings in Christiansborg. We wish him a warm welcome to Accra.

Hours before the arrival of the train, the Station Road and its approaches were packed full of people eager to get a glimpse of him and in this there was much conjecture as to which end of the Station Road he would take to reach Christiansborg. The train came in at last and there was a rush by those who had got access to the Station Yard which the police did their best to stem. After the ceremony of greeting those who had come to meet him among whom was the Hon. T. Hutton-Mills who, by the way, has blood connection with the Ashanti Stool, Nana Prempeh was driven away in a car along Governor Rowe Road to Christiansborg. A loud cheer was raised by the crowd as he passed which he graciously acknowledged. Single handed Nana Prempeh has accomplished what a predecessor of his, just a hundred years ago was unable to do with his legions of fighting men viz:—the conquest of Accra. The story of his exile of over 27 years duration and his eventual restoration to the stool of his ancestors has served to gain him a warm place in the hearts of the people.

Gold Coast *Leader*,
British West Africa.

THE GREAT MULATTO

For many years Dumas earned a very large income—and was always in debt. Yet he was without any personal extravagance. He was the most frugal eater and he neither smoked, drank nor gambled. He simply gave away money in handfuls and generally to the undeserving. "My biographer," he once said, "will not fail to point out that I was a basket with holes in it, neglecting as a matter of course to mention that as a rule it was not I who made the holes."

He was a very simple, human man, who, being a tremendous success, was naturally and properly exceedingly vain. When Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort went to Paris in 1855, the company of the Comédie Française gave, at the Queen's request, a special performance of Dumas's play "Les Demoiselles de' Saint Cyr". A friend said to the dramatist: "You ought to be very proud since this is the second time that the British Sovereign has seen your play." "It is," was the reply, "like its author, the better one knows it, the better one loves it. I know, however, what would have amused her more than to have seen my piece, that would have been to have seen me and frankly I should have been amused too." "Then why do you not ask for an audience?" "I had thought of it," said Dumas; "the remarkable woman who will probably be regarded as the greatest woman of the century really ought to meet the greatest man in France."

Sidney Dark, in
John O'London's Weekly.

A BLACK STATESMAN

Captain C. T. Knox, in the "Morning Post", pays a distinguished tribute to the late Sir Apolo Kagwa, the African Prime Minister of Uganda. I extract the following:

I was once asked by a lady whether it was not very dangerous living so much amongst cannibals. People visualize Uganda as a large country consisting of a great deal of sand, thickly peopled by black men who wear fig leaves and a ferocious expression. I was disbelieved when I remarked mildly that there was very little sand in Uganda and that the Natives wear considerably more clothes than the young woman of today. Let people with such ideas imagine a vain thing. But to those people who know, the passing of Apolo Kagwa will mean a good deal. It is a link with the past rudely broken. It is the loss of a great leader of men. It will conjure up memories of a far seeing, loyal and most enlightened gentleman. To be Prime Minister of a progressive country like Uganda is no light task and to rule over an enlightened Native Parliament calls for qualities and brains of no mean order. Apolo Kagwa paved the way for the occupation by the British and braved every danger and terror to compass his object. He realized that through the British and only through them, could his unhappy and terrorized country drag itself out of the mire. Then the British came and Apolo Kagwa was content. He saw his country grow to prosperity and content under the wise counsel of the British. He saw created a Native Parliament with the King as its head and with himself as its Prime Minister. He framed rules and procedure which enabled his countrymen to take a hand at governing themselves and which enabled them to dispense law and justice to their own people in their own Parliament with their own Cabinet. The Native Parliament, or Lukike, of Uganda, is one of the most marvellous institutions in the world.

African World, London.

MISSISSIPPI APPLAUDS!

Goodman, Miss.—The people of Goodman, with one accord, acclaim Dan James, a Negro man, about 50 years old, his nephew, Tom Smart, and Tom Lee Weir, real heroes.

Five Negroes, Moses and Ada Graves and their three children, were caught in the flood waters of Big Black River last night and had a narrow escape. Trying to cross the swollen stream, which had overflowed the pike across the bottom to a depth of three to five feet, their team and wagon were washed off the dump into water about 15 feet deep. The current was swift and they managed to catch the limbs of trees and hold their heads above water.

Troy McDaniel, who lives at Camden, attempted to drive across just behind the team and had to abandon his car when half way across the pike and wade and swim to safety. He brought the story of the plight of the Negroes and sought aid for them.

The rescue is a story of thrilling interest which is rarely found in the history of a community and records an act of real courage.

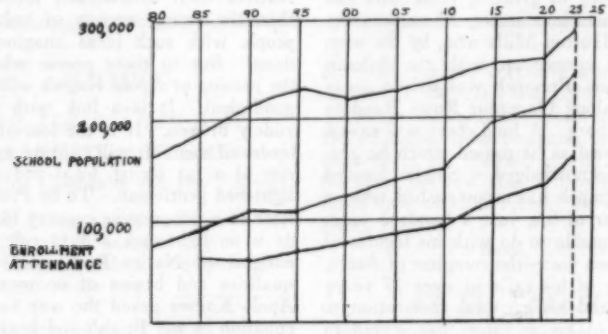
A boat was hastily made and parties set out to the rescue. Before going 50 yards the boat filled with water and sunk. Night had come on. A safe boat

(*Turn to page* 97)

The Negro Common School

(*Continued from page* 80)

There were in 1923-24 57 consolidated colored schools, an increase of 24 over the last year. Of these, 32 had 4 teachers; 12, 5 teachers; 7, 6 teachers; 6, more than 6 teachers. Thirty-seven districts were abolished by the consolidation of these schools, making larger and better schools in some central place, instead of the small isolated districts.



TEACHERS

INCREASED effort is being made to educate colored teachers for the North Carolina schools*.

There are five agencies as follows:

1. Teachers Colleges and Normal Schools.
   1921—3, enrollment—49; 1926—3, enrollment 311.
2. Teacher Training Departments in Private Schools.
   Annual appropriation by State Legislature—$15,000.
   1921—instructors 8, enrollment 210; 1926—instructors 13, enrollment 317.
3. Teacher Training Department in County Training School.
   Supported jointly by General Education Board and Hertford County Board of Education. Enrollment in three years—52.
4. Summer Schools.
   1921—43, enrollment—3,880, instructors—189, cost—$28,911.13, General Education Board appropriation—$4,125.
   1926—26, enrollment—4,352, instructors—184, cost—$33,733.76, General Education Board appropriation—$1,000.
5. Extension Work.
   Directed by visiting instructors from teacher training institutions. Enrollment: 1924—866; 1925—1,539; 1926—1,725†.

*These figures do not include Agricultural and Technical College and the North Carolina College for Negroes.

†Estimated from preliminary reports.

The results are shown by the following figures:

Number of Teachers

	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	1925-26
*Standard	2,248	2,405	2,679	3,012	3,485
**Non-standard	2,306	2,327	2,358	2,297	2,084
Total	4,554	4,732	5,037	5,309	5,569

Percentage of Teachers

*Standard	49.34	50.82	53.19	56.73	62.58
**Non-standard	50.66	49.18	46.81	43.27	37.42

*A standard teacher has training equal to or more than high school graduation or the equivalent.

**A non-standard teacher has training less than high school graduation or the equivalent.

THE three colored State Normal Schools are: The Winston-Salem Teachers College with a 2-year Normal course and a 4-year College course; the Fayetteville State Normal School with a 2-year Normal course; the Elizabeth City State Normal School with a 2-year Normal course. Normal courses in Agriculture are also offered at the A. and T. College, Greensboro, and courses for the training of high school teachers at the North Carolina College for Negroes at Durham. Recent appropriations have been made in the legislation past which will raise the Durham school to a Grade A college. This is in fulfillment of the demand of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1923-24:

"At present there is no State institution whose graduation merits a teacher's certificate in Class A. This condition, in my opinion, should be speedily remedied. There should be a place where the normal school graduates could go for further training. They must continue to study if they are ever to place the instruction of the Negro on an increasingly higher plane. This institution should make ample provision for these graduates and train them for the supervision of instruction in the grades and for the best teaching positions.

"Again, this college should admit high school graduates and offer them a four-year course leading to a high school teacher's certificate in Class A. It is now next to impossible to find competent teachers and principals for the high schools that are springing up

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FOR INFORMATION, *Address*
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KNOXVILLE, TENN.

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Wm. Hallock Johnson, President
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CHESTER COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

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very rapidly. The educational system for the white people was built from the top down. I am suggesting that we build for the Negroes from the bottom up. If it is to be a unified system, there must be a college to train high school teachers and elementary supervisors in order that the high school may be first, fed and second, properly supplied with instructors. If we do not have good high schools there will be indifferent normal school students and poor instruction in the elementary schools. A school system is a unit. Unless all parts of it are properly developed, all other parts will eventually suffer."

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(To be concluded in the June CRISIS)

The Far Horizon

(*Continued from page* 95)

was not to be had. The water was icy cold; a biting wind was blowing from the north. Several hundred people had gathered at the water's edge. The Negroes had been hanging to trees in 15 feet of water for three or four hours.

Finally Dan James stepped from the crowd and proposed to go to the rescue. Immediately he was joined by Tommy Smart, his nephew, and Tom Lee Weir. Rev. W. M. Huddle, pastor of the Lutheran Church, led in an earnest prayer for their success and safe return. After two hours of suspense Dan and his companions brought the five safely to land.

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(*Continued from page* 78)

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ALL THIS does not mean that Mr. Johnson is out of the woods by any means. In the first place, some physicians are peeved just because a colored man is making these things. Once in a while he gets a letter on the subject from the South. Also he is still in the shadow of the General Electric Company. He is working on comparatively small capital. If he were a white man, the process, while in a sense unfair, would have its compensations: he would be taken into the Gen-

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eral Electric Company's organization and made a Manager or an Investigator at a large salary. But this cannot happen to Mr. Johnson. He is colored. Therefore, he is fighting alone and he is making a splendid and so far successful fight.

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"Another is, we have acquired an Italian engineer who has perfected processes that will enable us to break the strangle hold on this industry now held by the General Electric Company. We do not want any mention of details made of this latter development, at least not at this time."

Finally he ends with brave and defiant note:

"Kipling said it when he wrote the following lines:

"They asked me how I did it,
And I gave 'em the Scripture text,
'Just keep your light so shinin' '
A little in front of the next.

"They copied all they could follow,
But they couldn't copy my mind,
And I left them sweatin' and stealin'
A year and a half behind."

Mistaken Identity

(*Continued from page* 81)

My co-traveler ran to the drummer and exclaimed in dire distress, "Oh me! I'm plum upsot. I thought I was in company with a white woman an' I've rid an et an been in company with a *nigger* all day," and went out.

I never saw my "beloved" companion any more. I spent the remainder of my wait in the wholesome company of the Attorney and today I am the happy wife of that most courteous Editor.

N. A. A. C. P.

(*Continued from page* 83)

in a Negro block unless the prospective occupant obtained the written permission of a majority of the people already resident in that particular block. Ben Harmon, a colored man, owned a house in a so-called white block at the time the ordinance was passed. He

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began to remodel the property intending to make it a two-family house, half of which he was to occupy and the other part he intended to rent. Joseph Tyler, a white man, sought under the ordinance to restrain Harmon from carrying out his purposes.

The New Orleans Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., under the leadership of Dr. G. W. Lucas, obtained attorneys and raised approximately twelve thousand dollars to see the case through to its conclusion. The case was won for Mr. Harmon in the lower courts but on appeal to the Louisiana State Supreme Court the decision was reversed. The case then went to the United States Supreme Court where it was argued on March 8, 1927. Loys A. Charbonnet and F. B. Smith of New Orleans represented Mr. Harmon and the N. A. A. C. P., basing their case wholly upon the decision in *Buchanan* v. *Warley*. Francis P. Burns, Assistant City Attorney of New Orleans and Walter Wright, attorney for Tyler, argued for the ordinance.

MESSRS. Burns and Wright were asked by members of the Supreme Court how the New Orleans ordinance could be constitutional in view of the Louisville decision. Among the arguments advanced by Messrs. Burns and Wright was the naive one that since conditions had changed in the ten years since the Louisville decision was rendered the Supreme Court *ought to go back thirty-one years* to its decision in *Plessy* v. *Ferguson*. This answer caused amusement to several members of the Supreme Court.

On Monday, March 14, 1927, at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the N. A. A. C. P., the story was being told of the argument in this case when Mr. J. E. Spingarn dramatically brought the news he had just read in an afternoon paper that the Supreme Court had rendered its decision that very day throwing out the New Orleans ordinance on the basis of *Buchanan* v. *Warley*.

It is felt that this decisive defeat of the ordinance will forestall any further attempts along this line in other cities. Thus the N. A. A. C. P. has struck two powerful blows at fundamental evils in American life, blows that not only will affect Negroes and their constitutional rights but which will be of immeasurable benefit to all of America.

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ing that the meeting just closed had reached so high a peak of enthusiasm and genuine worth no succeeding meeting could surpass it. And each following year the conference went beyond the one before it. It is apparent that this same experience must come at the Indianapolis Conference which begins on Wednesdey, June 22nd, and extends through the meeting at which the Spingarn Medal is to be awarded on Tuesday, June 28th.

One reason for such optimism is the fact that since the Chicago Conference in 1926 the Association has gained a greater number of notable victories than in any preceding year. There are the United States Supreme Court decisions in the Texas "White Primary" and New Orleans Segregation Cases, the further reduction of the sentences of the members of the 24th Infantry yet remaining at Leavenworth, the expose of the lynching of the three Lowmans last October at Aiken, South Carolina, and the world-wide publicity attendant upon that case and many individual cases where injustice was checked. All these victories have established the name of the N. A. A. C. P. for efficient achievement more firmly than ever before and they give added importance to its deliberations.

Each annual conference of the Association held has been notable, too, in the calibre of the speakers who have addressed it. At Indianapolis this high record will not only be maintained but from present indications there will appear on the program an even larger number of distinguished men and women. Two great legal figures, Louis Marshall and Clarence Darrow, have accepted invitations to speak. Countee Cullen, the poet; Bishop William T. Vernon of the A. M. E. Church; Dr. W. E. B. DuBois; Dr. Will W. Alexander of the Interracial Commission; Governor Ed Jackson of Indiana; Arthur B. Spingarn, Chairman of the National Legal Committee of the N. A. A. C. P. have likewise agreed to speak; while a number of others have accepted tentatively whose names will be announced later when they have definitely accepted.

Indianapolis is centrally located and many visitors will attend the Conference in addition to those who attend as delegates. A very cordial invitation is extended to all persons, whether members of the N. A. A. C. P. or not, to meet with us at Indianapolis. As the attendance is expected to be very large and as we are anxious that all who attend may be comfortably and conveniently housed it is urged upon all who plan to attend that they notify the N. A. A. C. P. as soon as possible.

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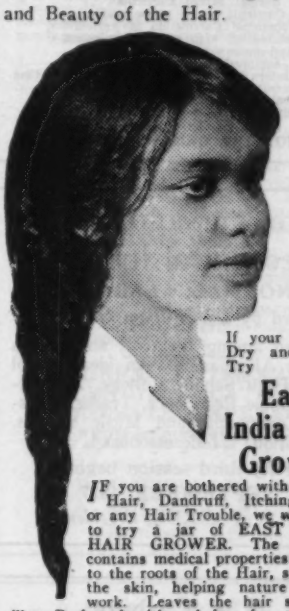

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The Browsing Reader

(*Continued from page* 92)

Mr. George S. Schuyler tells in *The Nation* of March 23 of his extraordinary sense of humor which leads him to enjoy race discrimination.

In *The Nation,* March 16, Rayford Logan writes most interestingly on the "Haze in Haiti":

"Conclusive evidence of this policy of encroachment and blundering appears in the history of the Medical School. Under Haitian supervision professors got $30 a month. The building became so dilapidated that professors and students had to use umbrellas while in class. Unable to resist the temptation of a much higher budget, the Haitians finally permitted this school to be supervised by an American *sanitary engineer.* Immediately $60,000 appeared for a new building, an increase from $80 to $250 for the Haitian director and a corresponding increase for the professors. All of this in order to graduate doctors who will not be permitted to hold clinics in the Americanized Haitian General Hospital. In the meanwhile the Law School, which is still under Haitian administration, remains in its old building, the professors continue to struggle along on their $30 a month and enjoy their moot court without American interference."

The Outer Pocket

(*Continued from page* 93)

about THE CRISIS has always been your message, flung out like a banner, at the very head of the intellectual procession each month. I beg you to restore this banner to the front of the column.

JOHN HAYNES HOLMES
of New York.

Your name has long been familiar to me as a champion of your people. This morning our very bright elevator boy called my attention to the last number of THE CRISIS in which you quote some of the more or less controversial letters regarding spirituals that appeared some months ago in the *Musical Courier.* My name was brought into this discussion. Better than that I take real pleasure in sending you a copy of the book of *Seventy Negro Spirituals* I have had such great delight in editing for this house. In my long and rather elaborate Preface you will see better than in any other way how deeply I feel regarding this wonderful contribution to the music of the world.

WM. ARMS FISHER of Boston.

"Dramatis Personae"

(*Continued from page* 86)

Negro cast. The play, which aroused much comment and played to larger audiences than any other in the history of the society, was a marked success. Preceding the play, a short recital by William A. Rhodes, who rendered a program of his own compositions and a series of dances interpretive of the poems of Langston Hughes, was given. The characters in the play itself were portrayed by Alice Burghardt Crawford, Ralph M. Coleman, James E. Downs and Kenneth Tell.

¶ Under the auspices of the Dunbar Forum, two tragedies, "Silas Brown" and "Peter Stith", both by S. Randolph Edmonds, were presented recently by a group of students of Oberlin College. "Peter Stith" received honorable mention in THE CRISIS contest of 1926.

¶ A "Greenwich Village Party" was given in Chicago recently by the "Flying Squadron" of the N. A. A. C. P. The program consisted of a play, written by Carriebel Cole Plummer; a musical ensemble by the club members; and interpretive dancing. Mrs. Geraldine Glover is president of the club and Miss Audry Davis, secretary.

¶ The Theater Guild has announced that a dramatization of DuBose Heyward's novel "Porgy" will be its first New York production next season.

¶ Krigwa, New York, announces April 20, 25 and 27 as its second season for 1927. The players will present "Blue Blood" by Georgia Douglas Johnson, "Fool's Errand" by Eulalie Spence and a repetition of two plays given during the first season, 1927: "Compromise" and "Her".

¶ The Dixwell Players of New Haven, Connecticut, recently presented three one-act plays of Negro Life: "The Chip Woman's Fortune", by Willis Richardson and "The Rider of Dreams" and "Simon the Cyrenian", both by Ridgely Torrence.

The Little Page

(*Continued from page* 87)

Or streaked with gold and orange
light
(The mignonette is always white).

And always glowing in the sky
Long after other blossoms die
And in the night of purple gloom
You'll see the mignonette's pale bloom.

They're beautiful but very high,
Those gorgeous gardens of the sky.
Nobody's ever been there yet
To gather rose and mignonette.

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Along the Color Line

(*Continued from page* 91)

colored men to establish the business of photography in Washington.

WEST AFRICA

¶ Nigeria, one of the British West African colonies, is more than seven times the size of England and is the most populous of all of the British dependencies outside of India. It contains peoples at every stage of development, from naked cannibals to highly organized Yorubas and civilized Hausas and Fulas.

¶ There are today in Yorubaland, nine cities with more than 40,000 inhabitants. The people are not only farmers, but work in metal work, building and weaving.

¶ Between 1919 and 1927, the Gold Coast has built a new harbor, 233 miles of railway, 3388 miles of motor roads, 1910 miles of telegraph lines and 1570 miles of trunk telephone lines.

¶ The City Council of Free Town, Sierra Leone, has been abolished and a town Municipal Board put in its place.

¶ E. O. Asufu Adjaye, who has recently been admitted to the bar in England, is now located on the Gold Coast. Mr. Adjaye, who is 23 years old, studied at University College and the Inner Temple, receiving the degrees of B. A. and LL. B. and also winning several prizes for excellence in studies. He is the first Ashanti to become a member of the English bar.

¶ The revenue for trade during 1926 is the highest on the Gold Coast record. Exports of cocoa exceeded 230,000 tons and that of manganese, 360,000 tons.

¶ The Gold Coast Certificate of Honor was awarded by King George recently to eighteen residents of the Gold Coast, in recognition of their services to African civilization.

¶ Achimota College was opened recently with 60 pupils: 33 boys and 27 girls for the kindergarten department. The college will accommodate 800 students when it is completed.

EAST AFRICA

¶ Sir Apolo Kagwa, formerly Regent and later Minister of Buganda, is dead. In 1925 he was knighted in recognition of his services to African civilization.

WEST INDIES

¶ The population of Barbados has grown from the 30 colonists who landed in 1627 to 156,312.

Postscript
by W. E. B. Du Bois

The Diplomatic Service

THE treatment which the United States is meting out to the colored men in the diplomatic and consular service is beneath contempt. Hunt and Yerby, with long and honorable records in the consular service, rated by every test as consuls of unusual ability, have been practically demoted and turned aside instead of being given their rightful chance to rise. Hunt has been sent from one of the most important manufacturing districts of central France to the little Island of Guadeloupe. Carter, who has already served twenty years in the tropics, has been asked to take his wife and young child to West Africa. Finally he has been allowed to go to Calais, France. The State Department is using every device to get rid of some of its best servants, simply because they are men of Negro descent.

Le Zoute

WE have refrained from commenting heretofore upon the conference concerning Africa which took place in Le Zoute, Belgium, last summer. There were present a great many well-meaning friends of black folk and much was done that has our entire approval. Back of the whole movement, however, we seem to see the old determination to do things for Africans and not to let them work for themselves in generous co-operation with their white friends. There is absolutely nothing in the program of Le Zoute which was not included in the program of the Pan African Congresses; and yet not only were these Congresses ignored in the assembling of this conference, but a determined attempt was made to discredit their work and to outlaw them by public resolutions. This attempt was defeated but it shows the animus of Le Zoute. Instead of white missionaries and colonial officials being willing to let men of African blood take steps for their own emancipation, it is proposed to keep this matter closely in the hands of white people and to ask for the co-operation only of that kind of Negro which this kind of white man can trust. This is a most unfortunate state of affairs.

A Josephine Baker doll as sold in Paris

Negro Crime

THE Census report on prisoners for 1923 gives us some chance, albeit a narrow one, of judging crime among American Negroes. It is senseless to regard crime as racial or characteristic of certain individuals. Crime is one of the best indices of social condition. When, for instance, we realize that American Negroes, having nine and three-tenths per cent of the population eighteen years of age and over, furnish 23.3 per cent of the commitments to prisons and jails, this teaches us two things: first, that Negroes are more easily convicted of crime than whites, and secondly, that, allowing for this, nevertheless our poverty, our search for work, our crowded city population and our growing resentment at color caste, leads to a large amount of law-breaking. Despite this, crime among us is decreasing. For every 100,000 of Negro population in 1910, 1,822.7 were committed to prisons during the year, while in 1923 this proportion had fallen to 1,305.9, a decrease of 28.4 per cent.

The character of crime among us gives further light: nearly one-fifth of the commitments are for "disorderly conduct", which covers everything from fighting to "sassing" a white man or glancing appraisingly at his wife. Other delinquencies follow: one-eighth of our crimes are for drunkenness; one-tenth for stealing; one-thirteenth for "vagrancy".

While the Negro is responsible for nearly one-fourth of all the commitments he is charged with less than 18 per cent of the commitments for rape, but with 42 per cent of the commitments for homicide and over half the commitments for carrying concealed weapons. Of course, the latter represents the efforts of whites to disarm black men.

Here is a large job of social uplift, of which truly a large part is the fault of our neighbors. The rest is the burden of the dead and of us who live and strive.

By Way of Escondido

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA was afloat. It lay bedraggled beneath grey waters. Lovely little bungalows dripped slime. Palms wept. Rivers roared and plunged and tossed away their captive bridges. The mountains rained avalanches and streets floated beneath crawling cars. And I was in Los Angeles, with a lecture in San Diego, 132 miles away. The railroad hung looped like a ribbon with its giant girders cracked, broken and plunged into the sea. The roads looked quite impassible. Very well. I would go by the Pacific Ocean, for I was to lecture in San Diego.

Then the boat balked. It was to sail at eleven and arrive at seven; it suddenly decided for sake of the stranded public to leave at two! "Very good," said the Man, "we'll drive through!" "You can make it," cried the Auto Club, "by way of Escondido"; which being interpreted is "The Little City Hidden in the Hills!"

So there was Man and Wife and Me and a staunch Chandler. None of us really believed we could do it

but it was ours to try for I had a lecture in San Diego that night. We started out and the golden sun started with us. Away we whirled through the wide crowded city out 9th Street to Mines Avenue. It was 11:15 in the morning and I was to lecture at eight.

"No, not that way!—this! by Laguna Beach and by way of Escondido! You *may* win through!"

On, 40, 50, 60 miles to San Juan Capistrano. Day darkened. The grey Pacific lay like lead upon our right, and left rose weeping rainswept mountains. "Which way is best to San Diego?" The first of three stonefaced men said: "You can't get through!" Well, we knew we couldn't but we wouldn't admit it even to each other. Not much! "Sure we'll make it," we said aloud and stoutly: "By way of Escondido!"

Yonder aloft rose the ancient walls of the Mission. Down below lay the sullen, lazy water. We plunged and ran into the end of a line of cars. We peered ahead. Sun and rain seethed above us. The cars beyond us hesitated; some turned back. Others turned aside. We went down to the brink of a grey-brown unbridged river whirling angrily. We looked at each other. "Let's go!" we said, wordlessly. The Ford car ahead of us lurched in, toppled perilously, camped on a sand bar, swerved left across an island; dipped and plunged right and was out. Ours was a heavier car, but we followed. A hundred spectators grinned at us in cheerful anticipation. We dipped and turned, fell and rose, swayed and churned, paused and were out on dry land, cutting and running for Escondido. The engine sighed and stopped. Our hearts did the same. We examined the carburetor and coaxed it dry. On again we flew.

Aloft up in the hills, with a brown big mountain at one end of Main Street, lay Escondido. We turned toward it at Oceanside after missing the way. We were 90 miles from Los Angeles and again a stonefaced man said: "You can't get through!"

We believed him, but we said to each other: "Of course we can!" and on we ran forty more miles to Escondido up hill and down dale past the old Mission of San Luis Rey with its brown and withered walls; by orange groves with globules of sun-light, by lemons and avocados. While all about the ghostly mountains rode high in the ghostly sky.

Into Escondido, out and then forty miles this side San Diego and one hundred fifty from Los Angeles by our winding way, we saw a sign: "Ferry to San Diego closed until 6 A. M.!"

A stone-faced man much more positive than all the others said: "You can't get through, unless you fly!" Yes, some had gone through earlier in the day by help of horses but now neither horses nor help were left; only waters and quicksands. We were dumb. Then we started up. "We'll phone to San Diego for help and ride to our side of the river and they to theirs and then, if need be, we *will* fly that river for I lecture in San Diego this night!"

"I'll stay and sleep in the car," said the Wife waveringly; "Have you got an extra pair of shoes?" asked the Man. On we tore 18 miles to where the river, a black sea of churned mud, made a steep bank, a staked ford and a porous sponge of meadows for a far landing place. But, lo! two stout horses spelled hope! In we plunged, dropping ten good feet and then stuck; glory be! the big horses and the engine groaning in low pulled us slowly out.

"There is another bridge washed out two miles on," said the driver, cheerfully pocketing the bills. We laughed back as cheerfully as possible and again flew south. The Man smoked furiously, pipe and cigar—Ah! That was a brave tobacco bill! I toyed with a dozen quite tasteless cigarettes. The Wife ate red apples. Here at last was the third hole in the ground and no horses! A frail foot bridge remained and the Wife and I walked across; baggage and Man dropped into the flood and floated. "Safe at last," I said. "I lecture tonight in San Diego." Then we looked for the meeting friends. Not there! We searched for our car and, the Saints preserve us, but with the help of a big truck that backed back in, it had won through. We clambered gaily in and on we rolled to San Diego.—10 last miles and 10 of the longest, darkest, hardest miles; and then the silver and gold of the city streamed below and Charles with the other car swung in sight.

I lectured at 8:30 in San Diego on "The Future of Africa" to them that sat very still and looked and listened; and with baptismal music of the Sorrow Songs from Piney woods.

And next day, Ah! The jewelled Pacific, the lordly snow mountains, the green hills and valleys and the silver walnuts carpeted with mustard gold! The callas and roses and palms; the lemons and the tall Eucalyptus, browngreen in the sun! Ho! the jolly friends and the good food and the dear lady who *will* write poetry and the long roll home under pale yellow acacias "by way of Escondido!"

And the moral is: If you *must* talk in the Holy City of St. James, secure, first of all, intercession of Our Lady of the Angels, with her Man called of God whose name was John; and of his trusty car, Excalibur; and then, by Faith and Grit you can do it —"By way of Escondido!"

Victories

THERE is probably not a single organization for social uplift in the United States that can point to such an astonishing and important series of victories before the highest court of the land as the N. A. A. C. P. When we began work seventeen years ago there was one gate posted "No Hope Beyond" and that was the Supreme Court of the United States. Before that tribunal the 13th Amendment had been barely enforced; the 14th, emasculated and the 15th ignored; the Civil Rights Bill had been killed; the "Grandfather Clause" evaded and "Jim Crow" legislation had not received a single setback.

Nevertheless, the N. A. A. C. P. arrayed itself for battle and has today the following record of victories before this court:

1915, June 21st, the "Grandfather Clause".

In the case of *Guinn and Beale vs. the United States,* the court held that the "Grandfather Clauses" were mere evasions and affirmed the right of the Negro to vote under the 15th Amendment.

1917, November 5, in the case of *Buchanan vs. Warley,* the court declared unanimously that a residential segregation ordinance is in direct violation of the 14th Amendment.

1923, February 19, in the case of *Moore, Hicks, Knox et al vs. Dempsey* the court declared that due process of law involved a fair trial unintimidated by the threat of mob violence.

1927, March 7, in the case of *Nixon vs. Herndon* the court declared that the exclusion of Negroes as such from a political primary was unconstitutional.

1927, March 14, in the case of *Harmon vs. Tyler* the court declared that the New Orleans segregation ordinance is unconstitutional.

There could be no more heartening set of victories. It means that the battle of the color line need never be a battle of blood or blows. It can be a battle of laws and justice.

But such battles take money and it is astonishing, not that this Association was given $44,344 to spend last year, but that 12,000,000 people of even rudimentary intelligence should contribute such a pittance. Until the day comes when American Negroes can spend freely $500,000 a year in their defense, they will never be fully free.

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12386—All I Want Is That Pure Religion and **I Want To Be Like Jesus In My Heart,** Deacon L. J. Bates.

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